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R. ii. 136.

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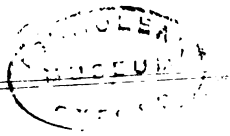

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FRANCISCI JOANNIS HAVERFIELD

SOMERSETSHIRE

Archæological and Natural History Society.

PROCEEDINGS

DURING THE YEAR

1854.

BROOMFIELD — SOMERSETSHIRE BENCH ENDS : — BROOMFIELD .

Somersetshire Archæological

and

Natural History Society.

Proceedings

DURING THE YEAR

1854.

TAUNTON:
FREDERICK MAY, HIGH STREET.
LONDON: BELL & DALDY, FLEET ST.
MDCCCLV.

PRINTED BY FREDERICK MAY, HIGH-STREET, TAUNTON.

THE Society is indebted to E. A. Freeman, Esq., for the use of the original drawings from which the following sketches were taken, given in the present volume:—St. Stephen's and St. Andrew's Church, Norwich; Yatton and Wrington Churches, Somerset: to the Rev. F. B. Portman, for the ground plan of Castle Neroche: to Miss Stradling for the original drawings, and Miss Murch for the anastatic copies, of the Antiquities found in the Turbaries: to the Rev. H. M. Scarth, for the drawings of the stone coffins, &c., found in Bath: and likewise to the Archæological Institute, for the use of the woodcut of the Roman inscription given in the Appendix.

The Committee are not responsible for any statements or opinions expressed in the Proceedings, the authors of the several papers being alone answerable for the same.

Contents.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,

DURING THE YEAR 1854.

PART I.

THE Sixth Annual Meeting of the Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society was held at Taunton, on Tuesday, September 12th, 1854,—The Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE, M.P., in the Chair.

The meeting for business commenced at eleven o'clock, when the President, the Vice-Presidents, and general and local Secretaries were severally re-appointed. The Hon. and Right Rev. Lord Auckland, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Sir John W. Ramsden, Bart., M.P., were elected Vice-Presidents; the Rev. Augustus O. Fitzgerald, local Secretary for Somerton; Professor H. Milne Edwards, of Paris, and the Rev. Thomas Hugo, were elected Honorary Corresponding Members; J. Batten, junr., Esq., G. Cave, Esq., W. F. Elliot, Esq., W. E. Gillett, Esq., W. M. Kelly, Esq., M.D, W. Metford, Esq., M.D., F. W. Newton, Esq., Rev. W. T. Redfern, Rev. W. Routledge, D.D., and Rev. T. A. Voules, were re-elected; and Captain Doveton, and J. Woodland, Esq., were elected Members of the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN having addressed the meeting in a highly appropriate speech, the following Report of the Committee was read by the Rev. W. R. Crotch, one of the Secretaries of the Society:—

"Your Committee, in presenting their Sixth Annual Report, have great pleasure in announcing the accession of twenty-seven new members during the last year. As the efficiency of the Society not only depends on the zeal and ability of those who labour in the different fields of investigation, but also on the amount of its funds, every increase in the number of subscribing members is a subject of congratulation; whilst the same consideration compels the committee to express their regret that the arrears into which some subscriptions are allowed to fall, and the refusal in some instances to pay what must by all the laws of good faith be considered due to the society, necessarily checks and hampers its proceedings, from the uncertainty thus attending its apparent income.

"The exchange and sale of duplicate specimens from the Williams' Geological Collection has been carried still further during the past year. In this way the society has been enabled to supply the Museum of Practical Geology, the British Museum, and other institutions, with some hundreds of duplicates, care having been taken not to part with those specimens which form the essential feature of the Society's collection. The unique and interesting specimen of the Bellerophon was lent to Mr. Salter for the purpose of having a drawing taken of it, a sufficient testimony to its value, and duly returned by him.

"The manuscript of the late Mr. Williams, relating to the geological collection, was sold to the society under a covenant that, if it were not published within a given time, it should revert to the family. That time has

elapsed, but the curators of the Museum are not yet able to dispense with the use of the manuscript, which the family have very kindly allowed them to retain for a longer period.

"Whilst on this subject, the committee cannot refrain from expressing their painful sense of the loss of one of their secretaries, Mr. Baker, of Bridgwater, whose widely extended acquirements, not to mention his amiable and exemplary private character, rendered him a most invaluable support to the society, and whose death has created a void which they can scarcely hope to see in a like manner filled up.

"By the kindness of several individuals, a large addition has been made to the Museum of the society, not only of objects of archæology and natural history, but also of pamphlets on various questions of antiquity, and Mr. Petit's *Architectural Studies in France.* At the same time, a valuable collection of illuminated missals has been deposited in the Museum, by its owner.

"Some casts of seals of the Haviland family suggest the idea that the members of the society at large should be requested to send casts or drawings of the arms of Somersetshire families, together with brief notices of their history, as much more and better information can thus be expected than from the researches of any one enquirer. To this may be added another request to members of the society, that they would give their aid towards the collection of materials for a Bibliotheca Somersetensis, or Catalogue of books written by Somerset authors, or relating to the county.

"Your committee have readily availed themselves of the offer of the Sussex Archæological Society to exchange publications. They feel that they need not insist on the great

advantage of such exchanges, which they hope to be able to extend more widely. They have felt also the importance of possessing such a work as the Palæontological Journal, which they have therefore purchased up to the present date, and have enrolled the Society among the annual subscribers for the future numbers.

"The Museum presented a feature of peculiar attraction this year, in a collection of Zoophytes preserved in the living state, which, imitating on a very reduced scale, the similar exhibition in the Zoological gardens at London, was exceedingly interesting and instructive; and the thanks of the society are deservedly due to those who devoted so much time and trouble to the supplying and arranging the specimens.

"The annual volume has been prepared with as little cost as possible, while no necessary expense has been spared to do justice to the illustrations.

"As there still seems to be a want of clear understanding amongst the members regarding their claims, the committee think it right to state definitely, that every member is entitled to a copy of the publication issued by the society for the year, to which his subscription, not being in arrear, relates.

"The Conversazione meetings were resumed during the winter, at which many interesting subjects were brought forward.

"In conclusion, the committee feel that the society has completed its first lustrum with more success than might have been anticipated, and with flattering prospects for the future."

Mr. R. BADCOCK then presented the Treasurer's report, an abstract of which is subjoined, viz. :—

The Treasurer in Account with the Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society.

Dr. Cr.

1854	£	s.	d.
To Balance of former Account	33	18	0
„ Subscriptions	196	11	0
„ Life Members .. .	10	0	0
	£217	1	0

1854	£	s.	d.
By Curator's Salary (9 months)	18	15	0
„ Do. commission for collecting Arrears of Subscriptions	5	0	0
„ Rent	25	0	0
„ Printing, Drawing, and Engraving 4th vol of Proceedings (1853) ..	57	0	0
„ Stationery and Printing ..	11	14	2
„ Postage and Carriage ..	6	16	10
„ Expenses attending General Meeting	12	8	11
„ Cases	15	14	5
„ Coals and Gas	10	0	0
„ Glass	1	6	9
„ Drawings and Plans ..	9	18	0
„ Stuffing Birds	1	18	6
„ Insurance	1	2	6
„ Sundries	4	13	6
„ Books	7	7	0
„ Balance	28	1	11
	£217	1	0

Papers were then read by the following gentlemen—

The Rev. H. M. SCARTH, on Stone Coffins discovered at Bath, and the immediate neighbourhood of that city, given in Part II., and in the Appendix.

The Rev. F. WARRE, Secretary of the Society, for Mr. STRADLING, on a Young Turf-parer's find in the Turbaries, given in Part II.

The Rev. W. A. JONES, Secretary to the Society, on the Application of Philology to Archæological investigation, given in Part II.

The Rev. F. WARRE, for Mr. FREEMAN, on the Perpendiculars of Somerset, as compared with those of East Anglia, given in Part II.

An ORDINARY was held at the London Inn, which was well attended.

The Evening Meeting.

Papers were read by the following gentlemen:—

Mr. A. CROSSE, Walks on the Quantock Hills.

Mr. J. H. PAYNE, on the Geology of the Quantock Hills, given in Part II.

Mr. C. MOORE, on the new Spirifers discovered in the Oolite of Dundry, given in Part II.

The Rev. W. R. CROTCH, on Facts in Natural History, observed during the late year, given in Part II.

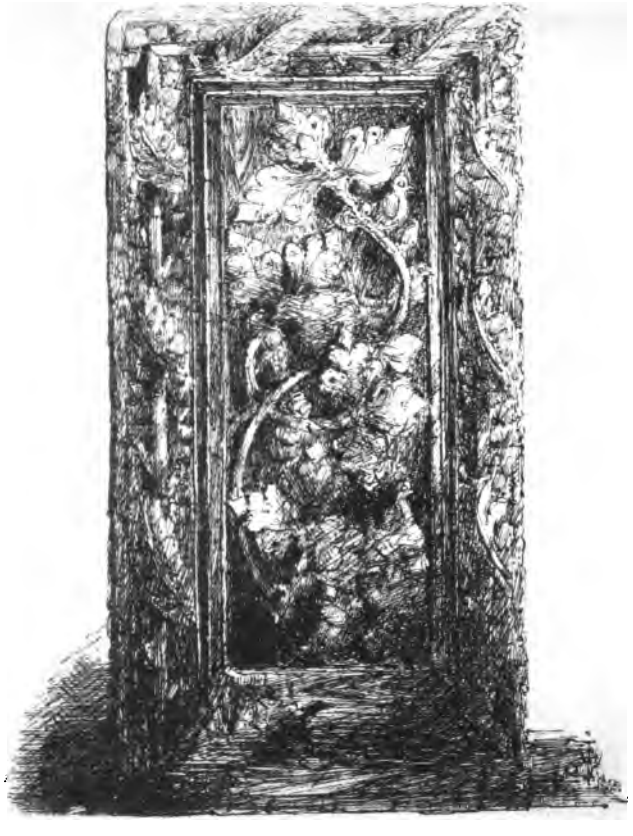
SECOND DAY.

Wednesday, September 13th, 1854.

The Excursion.

AFTER partaking of a sumptuous breakfast, provided by the hospitality of Robert Badcock, and Eales White, Esqs., the Bailiffs of the borough, the party proceeded on an excursion to Kingston: the church (fully described by the Rev. Eccles Carter, in his Paper, published in the proceedings of the Society, for the year 1853) having been visited, they proceeded to Broomfield, a small church of Perpendicular character, with earlier portions, chiefly remarkable for the beauty of its bench heads, two of which, as well as one from Kingston, are given in the illustrations of the present volume.

From Broomfield church the company proceeded to Fyne Court, the residence of Andrew Crosse, Esq., where ample provision had been made for their hospitable reception. The treasures of Mr. Crosse's valuable Museum were exhibited, comprising a very extensive and varied



COWELL'S ANASTATIC PRESS IPSWICH

BROOMFIELD. SOMERSETSHIRE BENCH ENDS: KINGSTON.

collection of the mineral productions of the county. To these were added some of the results of his electrical experiments, illustrating the origin and formation of metallic lodes; several powerful galvanic batteries were in active operation, and, under Mr. Crosse's direction, served to explain and illustrate the *modus operandi* of many of the occult phenomena of nature.

From thence the company proceeded to Cothelstone Beacon, where the following Exposition of the View therefrom was made by the Rev. F. Warre :—

"I need not tell you that the view before you is one of great extent, of varied character, and extreme beauty; it is bounded on the east by the long ridge of Mendip; on the west by the heights of Brendon; on the south by Blagdon, and on the north by the Severn sea, beyond which appears the coast of Wales; while to the south-west, at times, may be seen Haldon, and even the Peaks of Tors on Dartmoor. It embraces a variety of extent hardly to be equalled in the south of England; but to us, a Society of Archæologists, its beauty is not its only charm. Its boundaries include many spots of historical interest, which it will be my endeavour on the present occasion to point out,—a task for which my only qualification is, that, being a native of this neighbourhood, I am familiar with the scene before us.

"At a period before the times of written history, this extensive tract of country was inhabited by several tribes of Celtic origin—members of the great Loegrian family—one of the three original tribes mentioned in the Welsh triads as the earliest occupiers of the British Isles; on the extreme east lie the territories of the Hedui; farther to the south were the Durotriges and Morini; to the south and west were seated the Danmonii; and that northern coast

was the habitation of the Silures; whilst below us extends the Gwlad-yr-hav, the 'summer-fields' of the Celtic poets, which, with the heights of the Quantock and the northern coast of Somerset, was the residence of the western Cangi.

"I am well aware that my learned friend and colleague, Mr. Jones, will tell you that the 'summer-field' is a false translation of the Celtic name, and that Gwlad-yr-havren simply signifies 'the land on the coast of the Severn;' and it would, indeed, be presumptuous in me to doubt the correctness of his interpretation; but when I look down on that beautiful plain, I hope to be excused if (for the day at least), I hold the more poetical translation to be the right one, and believe with Harne, that the Cangi named their beautiful vale and plain 'the laughing summer-field.'

"Far again to the south-east extend the grassy hills and undulating downs of Dorset and Wilts, for centuries the battle-field of the Belgæ, those men of Galedin, who, having been received by the British tribes in peace, repaid their hospitality by wresting from them a large portion of their most valuable territory. Several of the mountain strongholds of these early nations are in sight—Worle Hill, Hamdon, Neroche, Elworthy, and Dowsborough are all crowned with military works of these extinct nations, all of whom were soon to fall under the irresistible power of the Roman armies.

"About the year 40, Ostorius Scapula took military possession of the coast from the mouth of the Avon to the æstuary of the Uxella, and having crossed the æstuary, probably completed the conquest of the Cangi, on the very spot on which we are now standing. I know that this is controverted, and that many historians and archæologists hold that the battle, which was fought within sight of the 'Mare quod aspicit Hiberniam,' was fought against the

Cangi of Shropshire; but, in order to see that sea, Ostorius must have penetrated beyond their territories into those of the Ordovices, while here, on a line of hills which the learned Camden states to have been occupied by the Cangi, he had seen the sea which may well be said to look towards Ireland, immediately below him. These barrows are the marks of battle. Roman and British ornaments have been found in the immediate vicinity; and there is the Uxella to the mouth of which we know that he penetrated.

"During 400 years of Roman occupation, no doubt the inhabitants of the district before us partook of that civilization, and admixture of Roman blood, which converted the barbarian Celt into the polished Romanized Briton. The British foss-way leading from Bath to Seaton was adopted by the Romans, and became one of their great highways. Cadbury, Ham Hill, and Neroche were occupied by their troops. The mines of Mendip and Brendon were extensively worked; and even on Blackdown there have been found traces of mining operations. Villas have been discovered at Pitney, Coker, Combe St. Nicholas, and without doubt existed in many other places. Roman coins have been found from time to time, particularly at Conquest, immediately below us, and at Holway, a little beyond Taunton, at both which places large deposits of money have been discovered; those at Conquest in such numbers, and in such a perfect state of preservation, as to render it probable that a mint existed there, in confirmation of which, some years ago several large balls or lumps of metal resembling lead, probably the debased silver so often used in the Roman coinage, are said to have been found there, though I have not as yet succeeded in tracing any of them.

"It was during this period that Christianity was introduced into this Island, and the first Christian Church in Britain built at Glastonbury. The history of this venerable and magnificent establishment, the burial-place of the British hero, King Arthur, the refuge of the historian Gildas, the residence of St. Patrick, the cradle of St. Dunstan, patronized and enriched by Ina, Canute, Alfred, and later kings; whose mitred Abbot is said to have been able to bring 15,000 fighting men into the field; the scene of the brutal murder of the high spirited and conscientious Abbot Whiting, is too well known to Archæologists to require that I should now do more than point out its situation.

"In the year 557, Ceawlin, the great West-Saxon Conqueror, over-ran the eastern part of the county. Kenewalch, in the year 680, defeated the Bretwallas at Pen, and drove them to this side of the Parret; and in the year 702, Ina founded the Castle of Taunton, to strengthen his western frontier against the subjects of Geraint, Prince of Cornwall, whose dominions still extended as far eastward as Blackdown and Exmoor.

"There at the junction of the Thone and Parret, is Athelney, described by Asser, as an island on the borders of Britain, where the indomitable Alfred lay hid while the Danish pirates ravaged the country far and wide; and farther to the east is Aller, where, after his defeat, the heathen Guthrum was baptized; and again, nearer the ridge of Mendip, is Wedmore, the royal residence of his immortal conqueror, where a deposit of the coins of Canute the Dane was recently discovered, some of which are in our Museum in Taunton.

"The district before us, indeed, appears to have been a favorite one with the West Saxon monarchs. South

Petherton, Wedmore, and Taunton, before the latter manor was granted to the Church of Winchester, were all royal residences. The family of Earl Godwin was possessed of large manors on the coast of the Severn; and here, on the Steep Holmes, Githa, the mother of Harold, took refuge after the defeat and death of her son at Hastings. On that coast too, near the eastern boundary of the view, the two sons of Harold landed with a body of Saxon fugitives, and raised the retainers of their father in a desperate attempt to restore the fallen fortunes of their family; and from that point sallied forth Drogo de Montacute, at the head of his Norman chivalry, met them between Congresbury and Worle, scattered their forces to the four winds of heaven, and drove them back foiled and defeated to their ships. There is in the Museum at Taunton an arrow-head of about that date, found near Worle, which may probably have been shot during their disastrous flight.

"On this side Minehead lies Dunster, where the Norman Moion had his castle, which in the reign of Edward III. passed into the possession of the Luttrells, who still inhabit its majestic towers; and nearer to us again is Williton, the residence of Reginald Fitzurse, who, with Brito, Moreville, and Tracey, at a hasty word of Henry II., sacrilegiously murdered, before the altar of his own cathedral, the Archbishop A'Beckett, afterwards canonized as St. Thomas of Canterbury; and a little beyond that hill stands Woodspring Priory, founded by William de Courteney, in expiation of the murder committed by his ancestor Tracey, where no doubt was originally deposited that very curious Reliquary now in our Museum, which was found a few years since, built into the north wall of Kewstoke Church, containing an oaken cup, in which may

be discerned a small quantity of brown dust, the residuum of human blood, which may be that of A'Beckett himself. Here again stands Cannington, where the Fair Rosamond, the victim of a King's lust and a Queen's vengeance, passed her noviciate, and where a few years since a ring, apparently of the 13th century, now in the possession of Mr. Stradling, was found, on which were engraved the armorial bearings of the house of Clifford.

"From this spot too may be seen the sites of no less than four of the mediæval castles of Somerset,—Dunster, the stronghold of the Moions; Stoke Courcey, the residence of the De Courcey family; Bridgwater, founded in the reign of Henry I., by William Brewere; and Taunton, founded by Ina in the year 702, destroyed by his sister Ethelburga about twenty years after, and restored by William Gifford, Bishop of Winchester, in the reign of Henry the First.

"I am not aware of any event of importance having taken place within sight of this place during the 13th, 14th, and the earlier part of the 15th century, sufficient to invest any particular spot with historical interest. There indeed lies Halsway, the hunting seat of Cardinal Beaufort; but grand indeed as a mediæval hunting scene must have been in these beautiful hills, and though painter or poet might rejoice at the recollection of the stately Prelate, surrounded by knights and esquires, and, if all tales be true, with ladies fair, sallying forth with hound and horn to rouse the good red deer in the woods of Cocker Coombe and Sevenwells, Halsway, exclusive of its architectural value, has little historical interest attached to it beyond that of having been the occasional residence of the celebrated Cardinal; and in this it is perhaps surpassed by Milverton, where there is a house built for himself by the more celebrated Wolsey.

"Those beautiful towers which we see on every side, have been supposed by some to bear witness to the gratitude of the Tudor Monarchs to the faithful West for its support of the house of Lancaster; but this I fear is but a fancy. Henry VII. shewed more anxiety to drive Perkin Warbeck and his Cornish supporters from Taunton, than to reward those who had supported him in his difficulties.

"Here immediately below us is Cothelston, the residence of Sir John Stawel, the daring royalist leader in the great Rebellion; and from Taunton it was that Blake led the Parliamentarian army to destroy his house and to besiege the stronghold of Dunster. Tradition says that the arms of Sir John Stawel's forces were kept in Bishop's Lydeard tower, and his levies made in a field which still bears the name of "Standards;" and the skirmish at Lydeard between him and Blake was described to me by an old man who had heard it from his great-grandfather, as graphically as if he had witnessed it himself. He assured me that when Blake's men and Sir John's rode through Bishop's Lydeard street together, they made more noise than he had ever heard in his life; and I can easily conceive that it was not a very quiet ride. Gore and Cothelston were both the scenes of judicial murder during the bloody assize of Jeffries; a gentleman of the name of Gore having been executed and his limbs nailed to a tree at the former place, and two more, Bovet and Blackmore having been hanged on the arch before old Cothelston house.

"The time will not permit me at present to do more than to call your attention to those two columns, that at Burton Pynsent, erected by that great statesman, Lord Chatham; the other, above Wellington, raised to the memory of the greatest statesman and warrior that England, and perhaps the world, has ever seen."

The party then proceeded along the ridge of Quantocks, to Will's-neck, and thence to Crowcombe, and returned by Cothelston House, where refreshments had been provided for them by E. J. Esdaile, Esq.

THIRD DAY.

Thursday, September 14th, 1854.

In spite of the unpromising state of the weather, which soon became very wet, a considerable number of the members of the Society started at eleven o'clock, on the second excursion, through Trull, Corfe, and Thurlbear, to Staple-Fitzpaine, where they were hospitably entertained by the Rev. F. B. Portman; and a Paper on Castle Neroche, which is given in Part II., was read by the Rev. F. Warre. The visit to Castle Neroche being deemed undesirable on account of the rain, the party having visited the churches of Bickenhall and Ashill, closed their meeting, and separated at the latter place.

The Museum.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN DEPOSITED AS LOANS.

A valuable collection of Illuminated Missals. — Dr. Sydenham.

A collection of Roman Coins, found at Holway.— W. Blake, Esq.

Pair of Jack Boots and Sword, about the time of Monmouth; found inside a partition in the Manor House at Burrow.—Capt. Barrett.

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

Two Antelope Heads.—MRS. BICKNELL.

Specimens of Roman Pottery.—W. P. PINCHARD, ESQ.

An Antique Silver Ring found at Exeter.

Five Guinea piece of the reign of Charles II.

Fossil Fern, &c.—W. JACOBSON, ESQ.

Spear-heads and other Roman Remains, from Prythrop Park, Oxfordshire.—REV. F. WARRE.

PURCHASED BY THE SOCIETY.

The Palæontographical Society's Journal.

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1854.

Textrinum Antiquorum, or, The Art of Weaving among the Ancients, by James Yates, M.A.; Pamphlet on the use of the terms Acanthus, Acanthion, &c., in the ancient classics; Do. on the Bulla, worn by the Roman Boys, the Proceedings of Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool, 1853 to 1854.—JAMES YATES, ESQ.

Architectural Studies in France.—By the author—
REV. J. PETIT, M.A.

A Crustacian from the Lias at Curry Rivel.—
W. MUNKTON, ESQ.

Two Blind-fish, and specimens of Stalactites from the Mammoth cave, Kentucky.—W. E. SURTEES, ESQ.

A Pamphlet on the Faussett Collection.—
C. ROACH SMITH, ESQ.

A Pamphlet on the science of Geology and its application; a collection of Devonian Limestones, with Corals; a Geological Map of parts of Somerset.—J. D. PRING, ESQ.

Zoological Journal, 1824-29, 4 vols.; Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, vol. 10 to 20; Memoirs of the Wernerian Natural History Society, 4 vols. and 3 parts; Robert of Gloucester's and Langtoft's Chronicles.—
SIR W. C. TREVELYAN, Bart.

The Proceedings of the Architectural Society of Scotland, session 1853-4.—By post.

The Book of the Axe.—By the author—
MR. G. P. R. PULMAN.

The defence against the reply of P. C., by J. Whitgift, 1574.—J. A. YATMAN, ESQ.

Fossil specimens of Trilobites, Ferns, &c.; from Scarborough and Dudley.—C. WINDLE, ESQ.

Head of Antelope; Case of Arrows.—Mr. P. TAYLOR.

Specimen of Ore, containing silver and copper, from a newly discovered mine at Ashburton; and silver and lead Ore from Cornwall.—MRS. G. H. PAYNE.

Specimen of the First Printing done at Taunton.—
H. NORRIS, ESQ.

Specimens of Stalactite, from Holwell cavern.—
J. D. PRING, ESQ.

A series of rock specimens, from Scotland.—
SIR W. C. TREVELYAN, Bart.

Two fossil Ink-bags, from Ilminster.—C. MOORE, ESQ.

Three Medals, commemorative of Alliance between France and England, &c.; Pamphlet on the Antiquities of the Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries, and a catalogue of the drawings, miniatures, cameos, &c., illustrative of the Bonaparte family; through THOMAS DAWSON, ESQ.

Copy of Magna Charta.—MR. E. JEBOULT.

Bones of Rhinoceros tichorinus, from the excavations at the Gaol at Wilton.

A Block of Timber from the same.

Stuffed Swan.—F. C. JOHNSON, ESQ.

Coins—of Harold, struck at Bristol; Canute, struck at Bruton; Edward the Confessor, struck at Hastings.—
REV. T. F. DYMOCK.

Large head of Alligator; head of Wild Boar; three Vampire Bats, &c.; through J. F. NORMAN, ESQ.

Fourteen specimens of Zoophytes, from Minehead.—
MISS GIFFORD.

Pottery from Castle Neroche, and from Bath; Roman horse shoes from Staple Fitzpaine.—Rev. F. WARRE.

Gorgonia Verrucosa, from Seaton; Sertulariæ, &c., mounted in spirits; Internal Shells of the Sepia and Loligo, together with their mandibles and ink-bags; Various specimens of the same, mounted in spirits; a specimen of the Aphrodite or Sea-mouse.—REV. W. A. JONES.

The following Publications have been received during the year 1854, in exchange for the Proceedings of the Society:—

Reports and Papers of the Architectural Societies of Northampton, York, the Diocese of Lincoln, and Bedfordshire, for 1853.

Sussex Archæological Collections, vol. 6.

Journal of the British Archæological Association, April, July, and October, 1854.

Temporary Museum.

THE following were among the articles of interest kindly lent to form a temporary museum, during the days on which the annual meeting was held :—

A collection of Somersetshire birds.—DR. WOODFORDE.

An ancient Pax, once among the treasures of Glastonbury Abbey.—REV. THOMAS HUGO.

Original portrait of Admiral Blake, and his dress-sword.—WILLIAM BLAKE, ESQ.

Roman, Etruscan, Grecian, and Egyptian Pottery, of great beauty and interest; a case of Stuffed Birds from Demerara, &c.—W. E. SURTEES, ESQ.

A variety of Roman and other antiquities.—Mr. DOWTY.

Cases of Insects, from Somerset.—MR. R. KENDALL.

Pottery, from Herculaneum.—MR. PINCHARD.

A silver ring (the "Douglas Cognizance"), found in Odiham Castle, Hampshire.—DR. PRING.

A series of Devonian rocks and fossils from the Quantocks, together with fossil corals from Doddington and Overstowey.—MR. J. D. PRING.

A series of drawings, and sketches of places of historic and antiquarian interest in the County.—MR. CLARKE.

Antique silver ring, found at Exeter.—MR. JACOBSON.

A great variety of curiosities, from India, China, and Africa.—CAPTAIN SINCLAIR.

An ancient Tea-pot, with the legend, "No cider tax; apples at liberty;" a record of the strong feeling of opposition to the "cider duty," which prevailed in Somersetshire. A curious candlestick used in Wales. A series of zoophytes, recent and fossil; with a collection of beetles and insects, from the interior of Africa.—REV. W. A. JONES.

Conversazione Meetings.

4th Season.

AT the Conversazione Meetings of the Society held at the Museum, in Taunton, during the winter of 1853-54, Papers on the following subjects were read.

1853, *November,—1st Meeting.*

On Taunton Castle; by the Rev. F. Warre.

On Electric Fluid, with Experiments; by W. Metford, Esq., M.D.

On Zoophytes living and fossil; illustrated with many specimens of Actiniæ and other Zoophytes, which were kept living for some months; and likewise by fossil specimens of Corals, &c., in the Museum; by the Rev. W. A. Jones.

„ *December,—2nd Meeting.*

Memoir of the late Mr. W. Baker; by Mr. J. Bowen.*

On the Trees, &c., dug up at the Gaol, Taunton; by the Rev. W. R. Crotch.

1854, *January,—3rd Meeting.*

On Poundisford Park; by Mr. G. Cave.

On the Crinoideans, illustrated by specimens in the Museum; by the Rev. W. A. Jones.

„ *February,—4th Meeting.*

On Electricity; by W. Metford, Esq., M.D.

On a particular Electrical phenomenon observed by R. Walter, Esq.

„ *March,—5th Meeting.*

On Fungi; by the Rev. W. R. Crotch.

On the Bridgwater levels; by G. S. Poole, Esq.

* This very interesting Memoir has been published, with additions; and may be had through the Society's publisher, Mr. May, Taunton.

*** The Committee earnestly solicit the assistance of Members in different parts of the county towards the following objects:—

I.—The collection of a Complete Series of the Rocks and Minerals of the County, to be deposited in the Museum.

II.—The formation of a *Bibliotheca Somersetensis*, including the Title-page of all books or MSS. written by Natives of Somerset, or relating to, or printed in, the County.

III.—The Collection of the Heraldic Bearings of Somersetshire families.

YATTON CHURCH : WEST FRONT : SOMERSET.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
1854, PART II.

PAPERS, ETC.

The Perpendicular of Somerset compared with that of East-Anglia.

BY EDWARD A. FREEMAN, M.A.

A DISCOURSE on the architecture of Norfolk may possibly at first sight be regarded as a subject not altogether appropriate to be brought before a Somersetshire society. Yet I trust that a little consideration will show that, in the aspect from which I mean to consider it, it forms an essential portion of the subject which I have brought before you from time to time ever since the commencement of my connexion with your body. My object has been to illustrate the peculiarities of Somersetshire architecture, especially during the Perpendicular age, and in no way can I so vividly show you in what those peculiarities consist, as by contrasting your local style with that of some other district. Now the architecture of East-Anglia is at once sufficiently like and sufficiently unlike

that of Somersetshire, to afford an admirable field for a comparison of this kind. I could not well compare your churches with those of Sussex, which I visited last year, because utter diversity precludes all comparison. I hope to use to more advantage the results of my last archæological ramble, because the buildings of the two districts, among immense diversity of detail, present a considerable general resemblance.

I took the opportunity of the Meeting of the Archæological Institute at Cambridge, to see as much as time would allow me of the architecture of the eastern part of England. I went without stopping to Wisbeach, and thence to Lynn, in excursions from which places I examined several of the magnificent churches of the district lying between them, known as Marshland. I thence proceeded, chiefly along the line of the railway, to Swaffham, East Dereham, Hingham, Wymondham, and Norwich. From Norwich I went straight to Cambridge, whence the excursions of the Institute enabled me to examine Bury St. Edmunds and Saffron Walden. It will thus be seen that though I have been to several distant points, I am very far from having traversed the whole extent of the old East-English kingdom; and I regret that some of the finest objects, as Cromer and Cley and Snettisham and Worstead and Yarmouth, did not come within my reach. The last mentioned place was sacrificed to a longer examination of the innumerable buildings of Norwich, so happily rescued by a wise House of Commons from the destruction which then threatened them from another quarter. I have however been far enough to see many very splendid churches, and to observe many points of difference from what I have been used to in your county. Possibly the examination of a greater number

might have revealed a more extensive list of diversities; possibly, on the other hand, it might have shown me that some of those which I have remarked are less universal than I have imagined.

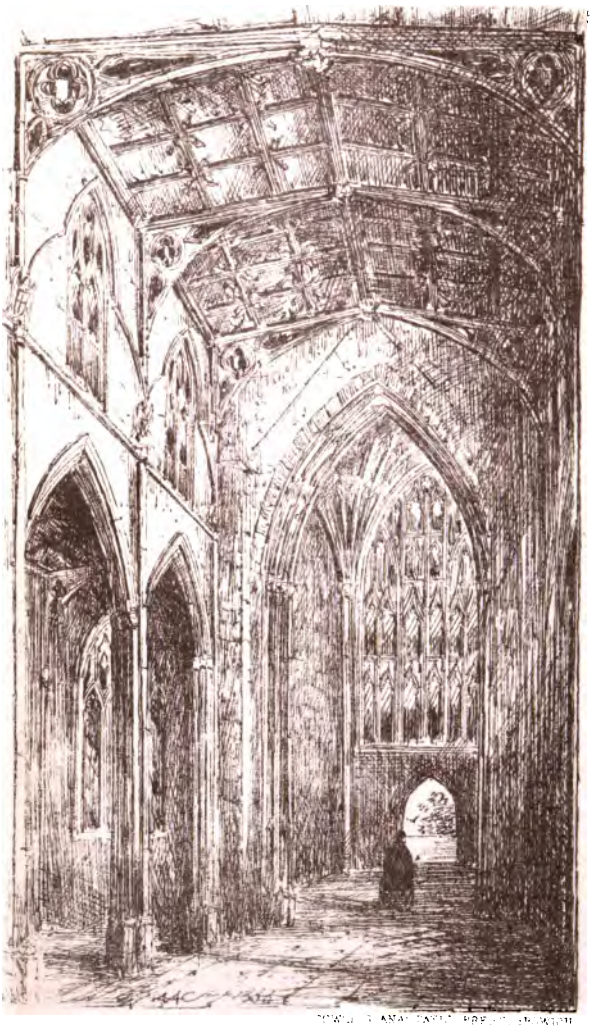
I shall of course, in comparing the architecture of the two districts, confine myself chiefly to the really great architectural works of both, those in which the peculiar characteristics of each display themselves on the grandest scale and to the greatest advantage. And I am bound to state that a first-rate East-Anglian church, though I think decidedly inferior in point of detail to a first-rate Somersetshire one, is fully equal to it in general grandeur, and very frequently surpasses it in size. And I must add too that I have found an East-Saxon church, very near the East-Anglian border, to which, for splendour of internal effect and for beauty of detail, I must give precedence over every Somersetshire building I know, except, of course, the unapproachable glory of St. Mary Redcliffe. I have diligently compared the internal elevations of Martock and of Saffron Walden, and I am constrained to yield the palm to the latter. If it be any comfort to a Somersetshire audience, I can add that, in external outline and in the forms of the windows, the Somersetshire example has a no less decided advantage.

I ought however to mention that the district of Marshland, that in which the churches are most remarkable for size and splendour, belongs both physically and architecturally to Lincolnshire rather than to Norfolk, and is not especially rich in examples of the local Perpendicular. The island of East-Anglia, for such it originally was to all practical purposes, can certainly boast of no Cotswolds or Mendips, yet it is far from being a dead flat. Marshland, on the other hand, the district west of the Ouse, reminded

me much of Sedgemoor; there is the same wide expanse intersected by rhines, but with this important difference, that in Marshland the expanse is simply boundless; no mountain-ranges fence in its horizon; no Brent Knoll or Glastonbury Tor diversifies its dreariness. Here is undoubtedly the grandest group of village churches I know of, the work of a most abiding spirit of taste and munificence, no age or style being unrepresented. The stately Norman pile of Walsoken is succeeded by the elaborate Lancet work of West Walton; a few miles further lead us to the vast Decorated pile of Walpole St. Peters, its gorgeous porch and illimitable clerestory; finally, in Terrington St. Clements, we reach a still more gigantic Perpendicular building, with a west front rivalling Yatton and Crewkerne, and a whole nave which would not disgrace a small cathedral. In these magnificent fabrics the Perpendicular is not the exclusive or predominant style, and, where it does occur, its peculiarities are not so strongly marked as in the district farther east. Again, though buildings of nearly equal splendour occur here and there in other parts of Norfolk, they do not seem to lie nearly so thick upon the ground. As in many parts of Somerset, we find an occasional splendid building, with several insignificant ones between each; the *average* of the churches in North Northamptonshire would probably be higher than in either Norfolk or Somerset; though no Northamptonshire church, hardly Rothwell or Warmington or Fotheringhay, could be set against the finest examples in those two counties.

GENERAL OUTLINES.

The first thing that strikes the observer in comparing the larger parish churches of Somerset and of East-Anglia,



WRINGTON CHURCH : NAVE LOOKING WEST : SOMERSET .

is the greater average size of the latter. I have remarked in former papers that many of the finest Somersetshire churches, Wrington for instance, have their naves too short for their height, cramped as they often were between the tower at one end and the chancel at the other. Very fine churches have naves of only four or five bays; Crewkerne, with its broad arches, has only three. Putting aside St. Mary Redcliffe, the largest I know are Martock, North Petherton, Bridgwater, and Weston Zoyland.* In East-Anglia many churches far exceed these in length; naves of six and seven bays are the usual thing in buildings of any pretensions, and they sometimes extend to eight, nine, and even ten. Again, according to a custom on which I shall presently enlarge, there are generally two clerestory windows over each bay, so that ranges are produced of from twelve to twenty windows, to which Somersetshire can afford no parallel. Crewkerne is the only Somersetshire church I remember with two windows over each arch, and that can only muster six! The vast length of these naves has this special advantage, that two or three of the western bays are often left quite free from seats, to the great improvement of the general effect, and also to the much better display of the magnificent fonts for which the district is renowned, and which thus become subordinate central points at the west end.

The fully developed cross form, with the central tower, of which Somersetshire affords such noble examples, seems to be rare in Norfolk, except of course in the case of great minsters, like Norwich, Wymondham, and Lynn. By Lynn I of course mean the vast fabric of St. Marga-

* Dunster occurs as a Somersetshire church of still greater size, but its monastic destination and irregular plan exclude it from the comparison.

rets; but there is another large cross church, St. James, with a central octagon, now half destroyed, half desecrated,* which must surely have been monastic also. Snettisham is, I believe, cruciform, and East Dereham has the striking combination of a central lantern and a detached campanile. This church, owing to its original central tower having been taken down, and rebuilt immediately to the west of its old position, presents the singular phænomenon of a double transept.† Terrington may have been meant to exhibit the same type as Dereham; at present it has only a detached tower; but of this church more anon. Small transepts, or rather transeptal chapels, sometimes occur, as in St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, where they are mere projections from a single bay of the aisle, with the clerestory carried uninterruptedly over them. Swaffham has transepts nearly the full height, but the tower is western.

The central tower without transepts occasionally occurs, as in the Norman church at Castle Rising, and in two much more remarkable instances in Lynn and Norwich. The building called St. Andrew's Hall, in the latter city, is in fact the nave of a large church of Friars, the choir of which nominally forms a Dutch church, but it is regularly used as the workhouse chapel. Between the nave and the choir is a single bay belonging to neither, which is said to have supported a hexagonal tower, which fell early in the last century. Now at Lynn there remains a very remarkable fragment, which, together with what we have just seen at Norwich, enables us to re-construct an entire church of this type. At Norwich we have the church without the steeple; at Lynn we have the steeple without the church.

* Since then, I see by the newspapers that the whole building has fallen down.

† See Archæological Proceedings at Norwich, p. 182.

Two large arches, which evidently opened into a nave to the west and a choir to the east, support a tall, slender hexagonal turret, an excellent example of Perpendicular brickwork, which forms a most striking object in the general view of the town, and which must have had a still more singular appearance when perched upon the roof of a rather broad church. Neither building seems ever to have had transepts.

The chancels are generally well developed, especially when the church contains work earlier than Perpendicular; nor is it common, as in Somersetshire, to find such disproportion between the two parts as we see at Wrington. The chancels are generally lofty, and have tall bold chancel arches. But in some cases, especially in town churches which are Perpendicular from the ground, we find an arrangement of which Somersetshire, as far as I am aware, affords no example. No architectural distinction is made between nave and chancel, which must have been divided by a screen only, but the arcades and clerestory are continued uninterruptedly to the east end, or, more commonly, to within a bay of the east end, so that the eastern bay, standing free, forms a small constructive presbytery. St. Nicholas at Lynn is a splendid example of this arrangement; so is St. Peter Mancroft in Norwich, in which city there are several smaller examples. St. Mary's, Bury, has a still more remarkable arrangement. A large choir with aisles is well defined, and divided from the nave by a chancel arch, but beyond this is a small constructive presbytery, no less pointedly marked off from the choir by a second arch. I do not know any church where the threefold division is so very distinctly marked, for, as no tower or transept intervenes at either point, the *sole* intention of the arches is clearly shown to have been to

maintain this ritual division. The East-Anglian churches share with those of Somerset the tendency to introduce small turrets and spirelets besides the principal tower. They do not however often occur at the side, but most commonly, like those at Banwell, at the east end of the nave, as in St. Mary's, Bury, or when there is no constructive chancel, at the east end of the whole building, as in St. Peter Mancroft.

TOWERS.

The tower most distinctive of Norfolk is of course the round tower of flint, which is of all dates, from Anglo-Saxon to Perpendicular, but with which, as the later examples exhibit but little architectural character, I am but little concerned at present. It is singular that the round form, introduced to avoid the necessity of quoins in a district where stone is rare, should, now and then, have sunk into the octagon—a closely allied form æsthetically, but its exact opposite economically, as requiring double as much quoining as the square. I did not however observe any marked classes of octagons, like those in Somerset and Northamptonshire respectively; a few of the round towers have octagonal tops, and so has a small square one at Thuxton, a village lying between Dereham and Hingham. There are also the hexagons and the octagon I have already mentioned at Lynn and Norwich, and the noble "abbey steeple" at Wymondham.

The western district contains several splendid towers and spires of earlier than Perpendicular date, among which the superb detached campanile of West Walton claims the unquestioned pre-eminence. My business however lies with the great Perpendicular towers, which, in the most thoroughly East-Anglian districts, are built of flint.

Of these I am very diffident in pronouncing an opinion. I know that I have not seen some of the finest among their number, but, as far as I have seen, I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that, in this respect, the supremacy of Somersetshire over all other parts of England remains altogether unaffected. No East-Anglian tower that I saw could be compared for a moment, as a real architectural design, to even a second-rate specimen of any one of the three Somersetshire classes. One thing that especially struck me was that I could not in the same way divide them into classes; each tower of any consequence must be described for itself. First came the detached tower at Wisbeach, a fine piece of masonry, with good details. Its lower stage forms a splendid porch, opening by a large arch, rather to be called a gateway. It has double buttresses, a most elaborate battlement in steps—a feature which I do not remember to have seen in Somerset—very small single belfry-windows, the richness of the belfry-stage being kept up by a lavish display of heraldic and similar figures. There is no sort of resemblance between this and the tower at Terrington, also detached, a bold, plain structure, with rather large single belfry-windows, and diagonal buttresses supporting a common pierced battlement and pinnacles. St. Margaret's, Lynn, has a west front with two towers, the central octagon having been destroyed. Of these, the northern one is Perpendicular, not unlike Terrington, only that naturally the buttresses are not diagonal. Proceeding to Swaffham, we find in the very fine tower of its church, something which has no resemblance whatever to these two last examples, except in the use of a single large belfry-window, where a Somersetshire architect would certainly have employed

two smaller ones. This tower is not very remarkable either for size or enrichment, but it is conspicuous for a certain delicacy both of design and execution. The rest of the church is of flint, but the tower is a beautiful piece of ashlar masonry. It has double buttresses, with a staircase-turret worked in between them, in a way which I do not remember in Somerset, but which, in various forms, is common in the Decorated towers of West Norfolk. The tower has a tall belfry-stage, a pierced battlement and pinnacles; but these do not rise from the buttresses, which finish in a singular way against the battlements. I cannot think this fine tower improved by a small bulbous spire which rises from its centre, though it struck me as being ancient.

I could not easily find a greater contrast to Swaffham than the western tower of Wymondham. This I imagine to be the most thoroughly typical example of a great Norfolk tower that I have yet mentioned, and certainly nothing can be conceived more opposite to anything to which we are used in Somerset. Its dimensions, both as to height and bulk, are enormous, and its material and treatment, being built of flint with very little ornament, unite with its size to produce an effect of bold and rugged majesty quite opposed to the elaborate finish of our western towers. As instead of "crutches" it has turrets at the angles, Mr. Ruskin would, I presume, extend to it at least some measure of pity; while Swaffham is but "a babe held up in its nurses arms," Wymondham at least "stands like a stern sentinel." Whether however its finish ever presented the requisite characteristics of "nobility"; whether it had "wrathful crest" or "rent battlements," I know not; nor can I venture to guess whether it kept its "vizor up," or whether "dark vigi-

lance was seen through the clefts of it"; unluckily, its "crest," whether "wrathful" or more peaceably disposed, has entirely fallen, and its battlement is not merely "rent," but wholly swept away. That is, to translate from Ruskinish into English, the whole parapet has been either left unfinished, or has been totally destroyed, the turrets coming suddenly to a stop at the top of the belfry-stage.

This immense tower consists of five stages, three of which rise above the church, though the high roof of the nave slightly encroaches upon the lowest of them. Of these five, on the north and south sides, one only besides the belfry-stage has received any ornament whatever; this is the central one of the five, which contains a not very prominent window, and has a band of flint panelling beneath it. The belfry-stage itself consists of two small two-light windows, thrown into one by the addition of a crocketted ogee label, so that practically this tower also has the single belfry-window. I need hardly point out how completely this differs from that gradual increase of lightness and ornament towards the top which is nowhere so thoroughly carried out as at Bishop's Lydeard. The angle-turrets are adorned throughout with flint panelling.

The architectural history of Wymondham church ought to be studied in Mr. Petit's admirable memoir in the Norwich volume of the Archæological Institute. The present eastern tower—the "abbey steeple,"—is a little earlier in date than the parish tower at the west end, and forms a most marked contrast to it in character. It is a slender octagon, rising two tall stages above the roof, being thus a little lower and very much less massive than its western rival. Each stage has a tall narrow window of two lights in each of the cardinal faces; a buttress, by an

unusual arrangement, being set against the centre of each of the other faces, thus connecting them with the square base of the tower. It should be remarked that both towers have Decorated tracery in their windows, a localism which I shall again have occasion to mention.

The tower of St. Peter Mancroft, the principal parish church in Norwich, is as unlike as possible to the west tower of Wymondham, but it does not therefore come any nearer to any of our western types. It is remarkable for massiveness and elaboration of ornament, rather than for height, being one mass of panelling and niches from the basement to—I cannot say the battlement, because this tower, like Wymondham, has quite lost its finish. The lower portion forms, or would form, were it not blocked, an open porch on three arches; the west window is of a prodigious height, and the belfry-stage above contains a single large window, with panelling and niches on each side quite unconnected with its design. There are very elaborate double buttresses, those at the south-east angle concealing a turret; and the whole tower batters very conspicuously.

The smaller parish churches of Norwich present an extensive study of Perpendicular towers, but they are not of much importance. Many of them are good, bold compositions, but they attract no special attention. They all have the single belfry-window, and most of them the diagonal buttress. Some* present good examples of the peculiar *air* or *sound-holes* in the central stages; square apertures filled with tracery, which are very characteristic of the district. Some have a large staircase-turret, making a prominent object on one side, as at St. Lawrence, St. Andrew, and St. Michael Coslany, all good plain

* See Rickman, p. 220, 5th ed.

S: ANDREWS: NORWICH.

towers, but requiring no minute description or criticism. St. Giles is loftier, but not richer; here we have the double buttress, finishing under the belfry-stage in a flat turret; the belfry-windows are the largest of any I have mentioned.

At East Dereham, the central tower, being open quite to the top, forms a noble lantern to the interior. It rises only one stage above the roof, and, as might be expected from its position, shape, and purpose, it has the double belfry-window. The campanile is a plain, massive structure, with diagonal buttresses; both have lost their parapets and pinnacles, if ever they had any.

The superb tower of Hingham is rather late Decorated than Perpendicular, but the two styles run so much into one another in this district, and this tower is so grand a specimen, that I cannot forbear mentioning it. It is a flint steeple, without any ornament besides its windows; but both its design and workmanship are of a very high order, and it possesses that especial majesty of outline, which results from the union of height with massiveness. It consists of six stages, three of which now rise above the nave, though, while the latter retained its high roof, the greater part of the lowest of the three must have been hidden by it. The three other sides of this stage contain each a two-light window, which, to the south at least, is blank; the belfry-windows are similar; the intermediate stage has mere slits. All these windows, together with the east window, have excellent Flowing tracery. This tower has massive double buttresses, with a turret worked in between them at the south-west angle; these buttresses finish immediately under the parapet, with a very bold set-off, as if they were designed to support a spire.

I think it will appear from these descriptions that the

East-Anglian towers, as far as I have seen them, are widely different from ours in Somerset, and, at the same time, hardly less widely different from one another. I could make out no such classes as those which I have named the Taunton and Bristol types. And I should find it more easy to describe them negatively than positively, except that the large single belfry-window seems characteristic. I need hardly say how utterly contrary this is to all our own best examples. I never saw in Norfolk a large portion of a tower occupied by a panelled fenestriform design, of which the apertures actually pierced for light and air were merely small portions. St. Peter Mancroft is covered with panelling; but panelling which the windows cut through, not of which they form a part. I did not find the elegant stone-work between the mullions, or indeed any one of the marked Somersetshire characteristics. Nor is this to be attributed solely to a difference of material; Wisbeach and Swaffham are elaborate structures of ashlar, and St. Peter Mancroft displays a greater amount of ornament than any Somersetshire tower I know; yet they come no nearer to any of our western types than the flint steeples of Wymondham and Hingham. The distinguishing characteristic of the Norfolk towers is a majestic boldness, which is most successful when it attempts nothing more; the two utterly unornamented towers just mentioned please the eye far more than the excessive enrichment of St. Peter Mancroft. But our Somersetshire towers, to a grandeur of outline hardly inferior—not at all inferior in the four grand examples, Wrington, Wells, Glastonbury, and North Petherton—unite the utmost delicacy of design and execution. The ornament of St. Peter Mancroft is not architectural; there is no design about it; the tower is converted into a mere vehicle for dis-

playing images; the interstices of the windows are filled in with utterly unconnected panelling and niches. Not so in the best Somersetshire towers of either type; at Wrington and Huish the whole steeple forms an architectural unity; the subsidiary arts may have their place, but they are never allowed to usurp a supremacy over their queen and mistress. Swaffham and Hingham and Wymondham are noble structures, and well worthy a journey, even out of Somersetshire, to examine them; but, unless Cromer and Worstead can present something very different and immeasurably superior, Norfolk can never, in the article of towers, be put into competition with the district which has produced Wrington and Wells, Huish and Lydeard, Montacute and St. Stephens.

INTERNAL ELEVATIONS.

The piers, arches, clerestories, etc., of the East-Anglian churches afford a better subject than the towers for comparison with those of Somerset. In general effect they are often very similar, but they present a most remarkable diversity in detail. I pointed out in one of my former papers the distinguishing characteristics of the Somersetshire Perpendicular as applied to these portions of the churches. The pier is a lozenge with attached shafts; the shafts have round capitals, frequently floriated; the hollows between the shafts are continued uninterruptedly round the arch; the wave-moulding is lavishly employed. All this illustrates the general character of the style, the union of the most intense continuity of lines with a good deal of the purity and beauty of detail belonging to the earlier styles. The East-Anglian Perpendicular is widely different, and, I think, less distinctively English. Certainly some of its peculiarities approach more nearly to the

continental Flamboyant than is common in other parts of England. This is no more than might naturally be expected from the almost insular position of the country, and the close intercourse which it constantly maintained with the opposite coast. It is shown in other respects; for instance, I believe that the paintings on the screen-panels, which are very common in this district, are said by persons versed in such matters to bear a close resemblance to the Dutch and Flemish schools of art. In architectural detail the eastern Perpendicular certainly displays the Flamboyant characteristics of discontinuous imposts and interpenetration of mouldings, which are quite unknown in the west; and the prevalence of these unpleasant peculiarities at once stamps this variety of Perpendicular as far inferior to its Somersetshire form. The piers frequently exhibit that mullion-shaped form, longer from north to south than from east to west, of which Somersetshire has few or no examples. The capital, as in Somersetshire, is seldom continued round the whole pier, but the hollows are less universally continued in the mouldings of the arch, and we miss the prevalence of the wave-moulding. At Wisbeach, the piers are perhaps as unlike anything in Somersetshire as can be imagined. A long flattened pier, a parallelogram in fact, running north and south, with its angles chamfered off, has a semi-octagonal shaft attached to its east and west faces. These shafts have capitals of their own shape; the portion of the arch not supported by them rises from the chamfer with a discontinuous impost. This is certainly an extreme case, and we shall not find all the East-Anglian piers presenting such a marked contrast to those of Somerset. It is common enough to find the ordinary Somersetshire section, only with the lozenge somewhat

flattened, and with the capitals of the attached shafts octagonal instead of round. Shafts, as in Somersetshire, are very often carried up from the pier to support the roof. Exceptional forms of pier also occur, as I shall have occasion to point out when I come to describe particular examples.

But the great difference in the internal elevations is to be found in the clerestory. In Somersetshire a single window, sometimes, as at Wells, Bruton, and Martock, of great size, but more commonly of moderate dimensions, is placed over each arch. In almost all the grand East-Anglian examples, two clerestory windows, as I have already mentioned, are placed over each arch, producing those illimitable ranges of windows, which have so striking an external effect, and which reduce the clerestory wall to a nonentity, leaving hardly anything but a system of glass and mullions.

Now as this arrangement of the clerestory tends so conspicuously to diminish the amount of unoccupied space in the upper part of the wall, this has perhaps led to its being far more common than in Somerset, though still very far from the general rule, to fill the spandrils above the main arches with panelled ornaments of various kinds. When, as frequently happened, roof-shafts were carried up from the piers, while a shaft was also made to spring from the top of the arch, the spandril became so prominently marked as a piece of blank wall, that the idea of filling up the space in some way or other must have been imperatively suggested. I remarked in a former paper that in such a case it was far better to treat this space as a spandril, like that over a doorway, than to continue the clerestory window downwards, in the form of panelling. In the former case, while the whole design is artistically

fused together, according to the main principle of the Continuous style, the constructive limits of the arcade and the clerestory are not confused, and the horizontal line is allowed sufficient prominence to give due and marked supremacy to the vertical. This is the case at Martock, and in the transepts of St. Mary Redcliffe. But where the other arrangement is followed, as in the nave of the latter church, the pier arches look as if they had been violently cut through a panelled wall, and the lines of panelling rise most unconnectedly and unnaturally from the label of the arch. This is the case in St. Stephen's and St. Andrew's in Norwich, while the Martock type is found in the far nobler naves of Saffron Walden and of Great St. Mary's in Cambridge.

I will now proceed to mention some of the more important individual examples. After Wisbeach, I next saw Leverington. Here I had my first taste of a complete East-Anglian elevation, but the local style is by no means fully carried out, and it has some peculiarities of its own. The pier is a flattened lozenge, with four attached shafts, those belonging to the arches are of an awkward clustered shape, and those supporting the roofs are semi-octagonal. These latter afford, with the label, an opportunity for interpenetration. The clerestory has merely a single very poor window in each bay, without so much as a string below it. I remember very distinctly that this church evoked from me the remark that it was not wonderful that the Cambridge Camden Society should so despise Perpendicular, if their ideas of it were drawn from buildings of this kind, instead of from Wrington and Martock.

At Walpole St. Andrew I began to see something of the local style in its grandeur. The arcades here are

Decorated, and the piers have no continuous or discontinuous mouldings, for, though clustered, they finish under the capital, so that there are no roof shafts, nor is there any vertical division of bays. But the arches have a most unnecessary discontinuous impost above the capital, and the clerestory has the two windows over each bay in perfection, producing a range, which I then thought well nigh innumerable, of fourteen.

Walpole St. Peter exhibits the local Perpendicular in perfection, though in a comparatively small and plain building. The piers, save that their shafts have octagonal capitals, might exist in Somersetshire, but the two windows above and the shaft between them, rising from the top of the arch, are distinctively East-Anglian.

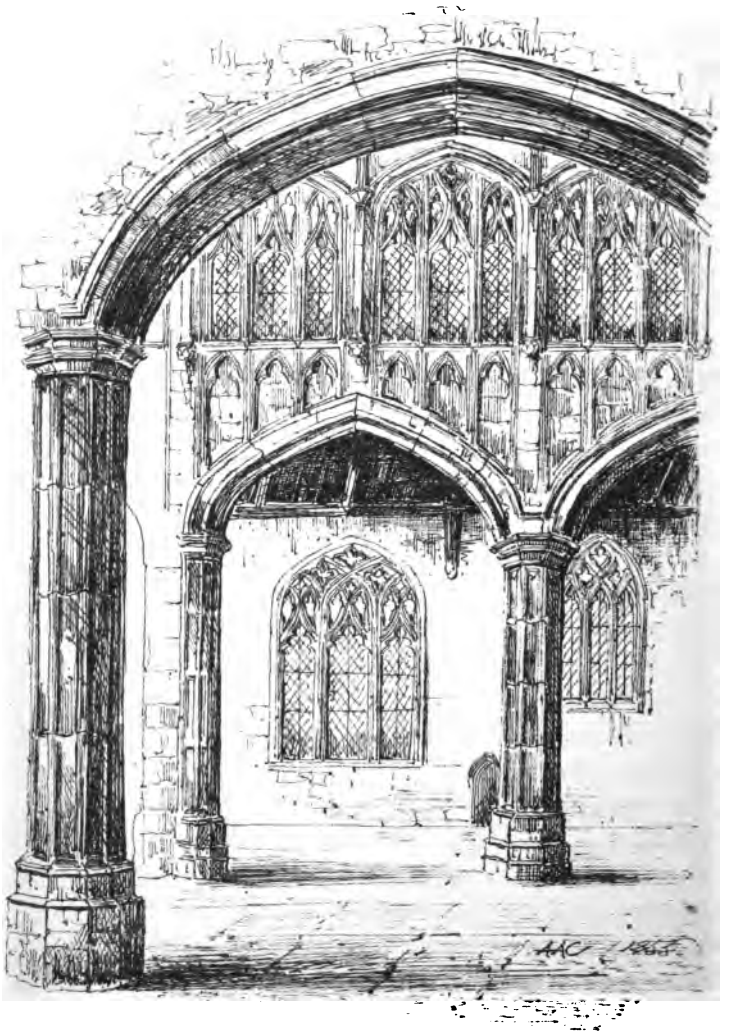
Terrington St. Clement's came next. I could enlarge for an indefinite period on this vast and magnificent building, even though much of its effect is lost by the mutilation of the transepts, and though the detached campanile is in itself a poor substitute for a central lantern, and moreover goes a good way to ruin the magnificent west front. But just now I am mainly concerned with the interior of the nave. Strange to say, the pillars are of the common octagonal form, which, of course, tends greatly to diminish the actual Continuous effect, though, as the workmanship is excellent, the arches being beautifully proportioned and elaborately moulded, it does not take off so much as might be expected from the general grandeur of appearance. The clerestory, two large windows over each arch, with roof-shafts springing from the string beneath, is one of the grandest in the district.

St. Nicholas, at Lynn, is called a "chapel," but such a chapel as might be expected where the parish church might rank as a cathedral. Nave and choir form an un-

interrupted series of eleven bays, the twelfth making a presbytery. The section of the pier is very complex, the shafts under the soffits of the arch are semi-octagonal; the arches are of a sort of four-centred form; the clerestory has only one segmental window, with Ogee tracery in each bay, with a niche on each side of the roof-shaft. This, it will be remembered, is a different arrangement from that of Martock and of St. Mary's at Oxford, where the niche actually takes the place of the shaft as the apparent support of the roof. The spandrils are large and plain, but, as there is an unusual amount of blank space in the clerestory also, this is hardly felt.

At Swaffham the arcades are Decorated, but the clerestory, with its thirteen windows and its magnificent roof, ranks among the finest and most characteristic specimens of the local Perpendicular. Hingham has also a Perpendicular clerestory over Decorated arcades; but here, though the roof is grand, the windows are small and single, and inserted, Sussex-fashion, over the pillars instead of over the arches. Wymondham has a Perpendicular clerestory of single windows over its vast Norman arcade and triforium.

Several of the Norwich churches afford good studies of the style under various modifications. St. John Maddermarket is perhaps the best of the smaller buildings. St. Andrew's Hall, which, it will be remembered, is the desecrated nave of a monastic church, is a very characteristic specimen, and differs in nothing from purely parochial examples. The piers are lozenge-shaped, sending up roof-shafts, of which each alternate one is broken by a capital at the impost of the pier arch. There are two windows over each arch, the intermediate roof-shaft rising from the apices.



S : STEPHENS : NORWICH .

St. Peter Mancroft is managed in the same way in the two latter respects, but it is a building of a much more ornate character than that last mentioned, and differs widely from it in almost everything else. The piers are not of the ordinary Perpendicular type, but rather resemble those of the earlier styles; they are not lozenges with shafts attached, but clusters of shafts with hollows between them; the capitals of the shafts also include the whole pier, so that there is no continuity between the arch and the pier, nor any shafts rising from the floor to the roof. As at Martock, and St. Mary's, Oxford, niches are introduced among the supports of the roof, but the peculiar manner of their treatment differs widely from those examples. There they are placed in the clerestory range; here they come immediately above the piers, and support the alternate shafts of the roof, the others rising from the tops of the arches.

Two other very fine churches in Norwich, St. Andrew and St. Stephen, should be studied in connexion with the Bristol homonym of the latter. It may be remembered that I extolled that church as possessing some of the finest arcades in existence, but remarked that their effect was much marred by the poor clerestory and the awkward way in which the window-sills were brought down to the arch, so as to form a kind of flat pilaster above the piers. Here the space is filled up with panelling, according to the manner I have already described. Both these churches have four-centred pier-arches, but the piers are widely different; St. Andrew has the common form, only no shafts run up to the roof, whose supports are corbelled off just below the clerestory windows. St. Stephen has a singular modification of the octagonal form, with a kind of clustered shaft at each angle. Both these churches are of late

date. The history of St. Andrew's is contained in a quaint inscription preserved therein :

> " This Church was builded of Timber and Stone and Bricks
> In the year of our Lord God XV hundred and six,
> And lately translated from extreme Idolatry
> A thousand five hundred and seven and fortie,
> And in the first year of our noble King EDWARD
> Thanks be to GOD. Anno Dom. 1547. Decemb."

St. Stephen was commenced earlier than St. Andrew, namely, in 1501, but its tale of timber and stone and bricks was not finished till four years after the happy " translation " of the other. Its west end was not fully completed till 1550, a time when generally more churches were pulled down than built up.

St. Mary's at Bury is a splendid structure, remarkable for its gigantic scale, the nave alone consisting of ten bays, and for its magnificent roof. Its details however are but poor ; the elevations are of the most typical character. The choir aisles are worth notice, as one of the best examples of a singular localism of this district. It is very common to find, placed between the windows of the aisles, an arch rising from a shaft, which at first sight looks as if it were traced out for contemplated vaulting. This instance is one of several which show that such could not have been the case, as the shaft which throws off these arches is continued above them to support the roof. It cannot fail to be remarked how closely analogous this is to the trefoil arches over the clerestory windows at Banwell and some other Somersetshire examples. It is in fact the same in principle as the apparent pier-arches in the chancel walls at Cogenhoe, Cuddesden, and Battle, in which latter case an ingenious later alteration has converted some of them into real ones.

St. James at Bury is, from its smaller size, and the loss of its original roof, a less striking whole than its neighbour St. Mary, but it is more satisfactory in point of detail. For instance, it has floriated capitals, a peculiarity which at once leads me to the noblest example of all, the magnificent nave of Saffron Walden, which it is impossible to avoid comparing, and, I am sorry to add, preferring, to Martock. Saffron Walden is certainly the finest purely parochial Perpendicular interior which I have yet seen, that is, remanding Redcliffe to its natural architectural position among cathedrals and mitred abbeys. The arcades in the two examples are a good deal alike, but those at Walden are more elaborate. It may be remembered that the actual pier at Martock is rather plain; the section is of the simplest kind, and the capitals are without floriation. At Walden, the section is a little more complicated, and the capitals, which I need hardly say are octagonal, have a flowered enrichment. The work in the spandrils is of the same general character in both, but the foliation and other ornament at Walden is the more elaborate of the two. But the great difference is in the clerestory and in the supports of the roofs. At Martock, the corbel of the roof forms also the finial of a niche, which again rests upon a panelled shaft, corbelled off just above the pier, no shaft being carried up from the pier itself. The single large window of the clerestory is found insufficient to prevent a certain amount of bareness in that part, as contrasted with the extreme richness of the work immediately below. At Walden all this is wonderfully well managed. The clerestory has two windows over each arch, their sills being brought down to the string over the arch, with a panelled space below each window;

but the two windows are grouped into one by an arch which rises from a shaft continued from the pier, and crossed by a band at the level of the string over the arch. This shaft also supports the tie-beam roof, the spandril between which and the containing arch of the window is filled up with timber devices.

Altogether this range is the most thoroughly artistic and harmonious I know; as a matter of skill, it actually surpasses Redcliffe, where we can only find an ideal perfection by uniting portions of the nave and of the transepts. At Walden, every part is wonderfully adapted and fused into every other part; the whole, from the floor to the roof, is one faultless and harmonious design. The arrangement adapted in the clerestory admits the magnificent effect of the numerous range of windows, avoiding alike the bareness left by the moderate single window, and the somewhat crushing effect which would have resulted had one unbroken window filled up the whole space above the pier-arch. At the same time it retains the superior unity attaching to the latter arrangement. Great St. Mary's at Cambridge, which, in most respects, closely imitates Saffron Walden, has the common East-Anglian arrangement in the clerestory. I am not sure that in either case the spandril-work over the chancel-arch is any improvement. At Walden, this mode of ornament is even extended to the back face of the arches towards the aisles.

The germ of these arrangements is doubtless to be found in those arches in the choir of Ely, where the old Norman proportion and the perfection of Decorated detail are both so marvellously united with the full development of every principle of Continuous composition.*

* See Proceedings for 1852, p. 39; History of Architecture, p. 389.

ROOFS.

The East-Anglian roofs are, as every one knows, among the noblest and most characteristic features of the district, and perhaps that in which the contrast is most marked between them and their Somersetshire rivals. But somehow or other, I never feel so much at home in dealing with structures of wood as when I keep myself safe among stone and mortar. I cannot criticize these roofs with anything like the same facility and satisfaction as I can the arcades or the window-tracery. Besides, I know that the finest roofs are in Suffolk and not in Norfolk, and of Suffolk roofs I have only seen one, St. Mary's at Bury. The low-pitched tie-beam roof, which is found everywhere, is found in the eastern counties also; Walden, for instance, is a fine example; but as the distinct roof of the west is the coved form, so the distinctive roof of the east is the high-pitched roof in various forms, of which the trefoil is the most distinctive of all, though to my mind very much better suited for a hall than for a church. That particular form of roof which in Somersetshire is seen confined to domestic buildings, but which, in central Wales and its Marches, extends to churches also—that I mean of which the hall of Lytes Cary is so grand an example, I did not see. But really I must leave the subject of ornamental carpentry to some one else, and devote the little space I have left to my own special branch of the department of ornamental masonry, the tracery of the windows.

WINDOW TRACERY.

This is certainly one of the points in which the superiority of the Somersetshire over the East-Anglian type of

Perpendicular is most incontestable. I have often* already remarked the great beauty of the Perpendicular tracery in Somerset, chiefly of the Alternate variety, or, better still, the Alternate combined with the Supermullioned. In employing these forms, the Somersetshire style is true to its general character of thorough Continuity, while retaining much of the most pleasing features of the earlier styles. In Norfolk, on the other hand, I saw very few fully developed Perpendicular windows of any real merit. This I attribute to the fact, which I think is evident, that Flowing tracery stood its ground in that region far longer than in most parts of England, certainly far longer than in Somersetshire. This practice I conceive to be an instance of the tendency to approximate to the continental Flamboyant, which I have already mentioned as characteristic of the East-Anglian Perpendicular. It is not unusual to find windows of good Flowing tracery of a date evidently far advanced in the Perpendicular period. Such is the case in the clerestory and both towers of Wymondham. Still more remarkably is this the case in the tower of St. Margaret's in Norwich, where the belfry-windows are of pure Divergent tracery, and in the clerestory of St. Gregory, where they are alternately Divergent and of a rich variety of Reticulated. It is remarkable that in these cases we should find such elaborate tracery in the clerestories and towers, where, even during the strictly Flowing period, it was, as † Mr. Paley has observed, except in very large buildings, but very sparingly employed.

But the distinctive characteristic of Norfolk tracery is the extraordinary prevalence of forms intermediate between Flowing and Perpendicular, sometimes strictly transitional,

* Essay on Window Tracery, pp. 189, 193.

† Gothic Architecture, p. 107. See Essay on Window Tracery, p. 257.

sometimes instances of mere commingling. This practice seems to have gone on during the whole period of Perpendicular, so that, except by other details, it is impossible to distinguish between the * historically Transitional, such as we see in the transepts at Redcliffe, and the revived Decorated which occurs at Burrington. This mixture of Decorated and Perpendicular may be found in very fine examples in Norwich Cathedral, chiefly in the cloisters and the clerestory of the presbytery, in the desecrated chapel near the west front, and in the churches of St. Gregory and St. Stephen. Lynn has, in St. Nicholas, some splendid instances of the combination of Arch tracery with Perpendicular, and the clerestory, as we have seen, is purely Ogee.

It is this mixed style which Norfolk has to set against the excellent pure Perpendicular of Somerset. The more strictly Perpendicular tracery of Norfolk is mostly very miserable and fantastic. It indulges in ugly shaped arches, tracery commencing without reason below the impost, transoms not going across the whole window, sides not strictly corresponding, subarcuations set askew, lines utterly unmeaning and indescribable, sometimes an utterly unconnected Flowing line or two introduced here and there. I will not enlarge on individual examples, but many will be found in the accompanying drawings, and some in my work on Tracery.

MISCELLANEOUS FEATURES.

The absence of stone in Norfolk, and the necessary use of flint, has introduced the singular peculiarity known as flint panelling, so graphically described by Mr. Petit in his account of Wymondham. Somerset has nothing the least like this. A pattern, sometimes of very elaborate tracery

* Essay on Window Tracery, p. 211, et seqq.

or panelling, is traced out, in which the raised parts are represented by hewn stone and the flat by flint: I say represented, because the whole is one plane. It is in fact a picture of real panelling, done in black and white, and at a distance looks very like it. There is some of this work in St. Peter Mancroft, but St. Æthelberht's Gate and St. Michael Coslany are the best examples; the former Flowing, the latter Perpendicular.

The lack of fine stone has also doubtless led to the frequent absence, not only of the magnificent pierced parapets of northern Somersetshire, but very often of any battlement or parapet at all.

Such is my comparison between the two great Perpendicular districts of England, which I spoke of two years ago as a desirable undertaking. But I have not yet exhausted my favourite subject of Somersetshire architecture. I must ascertain the exact boundaries of the two types, or the existence of any other distinct ones. The Perpendicular of the midland counties, as far as I have seen it, is not identical with either, but comes much more nearly to the Norfolk type. Then I must trace out the exact influence of Somersetshire on the neighbouring counties, both in Perpendicular and in earlier times, when the great Welsh churches, as I have often observed, evidently imitated Somersetshire models. Here, to say nothing of more minute individual investigations, is matter for several more Meetings of the Somersetshire Archæological Society, before I have entirely done with the subject of Somersetshire architecture.

Castle Neroche.

BY THE REV. F. WARRE.

THE extreme remoteness of the period during which the nations flourished to which the constructors of our mysterious hill forts and other earthworks belonged—nations of whom it has been truly said that their political existence terminated nearly at the time when the written history of this country commences—must necessarily render all investigations into their history, customs, residences and fortifications, difficult and uncertain, and the deductions drawn from them inconclusive and unsatisfactory. And yet it is impossible to see these vestiges of byegone races—stupendous temples, as at Sonehenge and Avebury; monuments of unknown meaning, such as Silbury; barrows without number scattered over our downs and hills, containing the bones of forgotten nations; hut circles marking the sites of their towns and villages, in which the antiquary finds traces of domestic life in fragments of coarse pottery, rude ornaments and ruder weapons; strongholds, in some cases displaying a degree of science hardly compatible with our ideas of their barbarism, and skeletons, the unmistakeable relics in some cases of desperate battle,

in others of peaceable interment—without longing to know more about them than simply that they have lived and died and left their marks behind them.

This natural wish to know the origin and history of the objects with which we are familiar, when unassisted by historical knowledge and accurate investigation, has given rise to many a strange opinion. I have heard the Devil, the Romans, the Danes, Merlin, Michael Scott, Robin Hood and Oliver Cromwell, all declared to have been the constructors not only of mysterious earthworks and monuments, "the work of men's hands," but, together with St. Hilda, St. Cuthbert, and some other saints, to have produced geological phænomena, which are certainly not the productions of human skill and labor, but of the more mysterious operations of Almighty power, through the agency of natural causes. Now it is clearly impossible to draw certain conclusions from uncertain premises, but it does not necessarily follow that because a thing is uncertain therefore it is absurd; and since our natural impulse will force us to conjecture, it will at all events be wise to make our conjectures as probable as we can: for on the degree of their probability will of course depend their value, and though it must be confessed that many of our data are mythical, yet it will be found that many of them are very probable, and some I will venture to say as nearly certain as the greater number of events of a like antiquity which are generally received as historial facts.

I will then, without farther preface, proceed to lay before you a brief general sketch of what seems to me to be the probable history of those mysterious earthworks of which I have spoken, and will then go on more particularly to describe those at Castle Neroche, and to show the points of similarity and dissimilarity which these last present

when compared with other hill forts which I have carefully examined.

The evidently fabulous accounts of the origin of the British nation, given by Geoffrey of Monmouth and some other mediæval chroniclers, are altogether unworthy of notice ; and it would not be to our purpose to discuss the very doubtful questions, whether the Gael, of whom vestiges are said to remain in some parts of Wales, preceded the Cymri in the occupation of the country, or no ; nor whether they were of cognate origin with that people or not. It is sufficient for our present purpose to mention the indisputable fact, that at a very early period, perhaps as early as 1000 years B.C., this island was inhabited by a people of Celtic origin, three tribes of which, the Cymri, the Loegri, who came from the banks of the Loire, and the Britons, who came from Lydaw, or the water-side, no doubt the coast of Gaul, are mentioned in the Welsh triads collected by Caradoc of Langarvan in the twelfth century, as being the original and peaceable inhabitants of the country. Of these the Loegri occupied the south, the Britons the north and east, and the Cymri the west of the island ; but having, it seems, more room than they required, they afterwards admitted three other tribes, the Caledonians, the Gwyddellians or Gael (who, according to some Archæologists, preceded the Cymri and other Celtic tribes), and the men of Galeden, who are supposed by Dr. Guest to be the same as the Belgæ. This last tribe is said to have come in naked ships, or open boats, to the Isle of Wight, when their own country was overwhelmed by the sea, and to have had lands assigned them by the Cymri. In process of time these Belgæ overran Hants, Wilts, and great part of Somerset, but do not appear to have penetrated into Devon until they were driven west-

ward by the Saxon invasion in the fifth and sixth centuries, when they had in truth become Romanized Britons.

Whether that line of hill forts extending within sight of each other from the mouth of the Avon far into Devonshire (of which chain of communication Neroche forms one link), was constructed by the Belgæ, or by the Loegrian tribes as a defence against Belgic usurpation, can perhaps never be satisfactorily decided; but it seems probable that it was in some way connected with the mining traffic which undoubtedly existed in this country long before the Roman invasion, and that they are of very different ages and construction, some apparently of the very earliest date, others probably as late as the invasion of the Belgæ. On Worle Hill, for instance, the ramparts are stone walls; and the plan of the fortifications (which is, curiously enough, almost identical with that of ancient Carthage, as described by Niebuhr) is so scientific as to render its construction by mere unassisted barbarians hardly credible. At Dolebury, though the construction of the walls betokens a more advanced knowledge of building, the plan is much more simple and less scientific. At Hamdon Hill it may be doubted whether the more ancient part of the fort was defended by walls at all, though I am myself inclined to think it was, and that to some part of it, at least, was added an internal breastwork of dry masonry, which I have not observed elsewhere. At Castle Neroche, I have found no traces of masonry except round what is called the beacon; but this is, comparatively speaking, of late date. The Romans, after the invasion of Britain, occupied many of these hill forts, such as Hamdon Hill, Neroche, Cadbury, and others. After them no doubt both Saxons and Danes used these strongholds as military stations, when it suited their convenience. It requires therefore some experience,

as well as considerable care, to enable us to decide with any degree of correctness as to what is British, what Roman, what Saxon, and what is Danish work; yet, unless this be done, it is manifestly impossible to trace the original plan or to conjecture the date or intention of any fortification. In the case of a Roman camp, where the site had not previously been occupied by a British fortification, or subsequently used as a residence by the Saxons, there is but little fear of mistake. The plan is invariably the same: a rectangular area is surrounded by a ditch, the earth from which, being thrown inwards, forms a high mound or agger, which was in many cases further defended by a wooden palisade placed on the top, but of this of course all vestiges have disappeared. In the middle of each side is an entrance, from which a way led to the opposite gate, and at or near the intersection of the two ways was the Prætorium the remains of which may frequently be traced. These camps are not usually found on the tops of very high hills, nor, though undoubtedly sometimes of very great strength, do they appear, in general, to have been very elaborately fortified. For though the highly disciplined troops of Rome, are said never to have halted even for a night without constructing a regularly entrenched camp, those conquerors of the world depended for victory far more upon their legionary formation in the field, the heavy pilum, and the deadly thrust of the short sharp sword in close combat, than on walls and earthworks; and it is no uncommon thing, where a British fortification occupies the summit of a hill, to find at a short distance below it the traces of a Roman camp, so placed that its occupiers might observe every sally of their opponents, and lose no opportunity of testing the superiority of scientific warfare over the irregular attacks of even the most warlike

and fearless barbarians. Its slight and simple, though regular entrenchment, displaying a marked and striking contrast to the complicated system of mounds and trenches with which the Britons fortified their more important strongholds. The Britons, on the contrary, appear always to have occupied the highest ground, frequently an isolated hill, which they surrounded with a series of deep trenches, generally following the natural form of the ground, and often so irregular in plan as to defy all attempts to find out their original design. But though thus irregular, their fortifications, on close inspection, will not be found deficient in a sort of rude science. Every inequality of the ground seems to have been taken advantage of; outworks flanking the entrances may very frequently be traced, these entrances moreover sometimes opening into one of the trenches through which the approach to the interior leads, so as to expose an enemy to an overwhelming storm of darts and stones from the heights above. Besides this complicated system of entrenchments, there is one very peculiar and characteristic feature of British fortification which I have hardly ever found wanting in the military works of that people. This is a series of low terraces scarped out of the side of the hill, rising one above another, not continued in an unbroken line round the place, but forming, in some cases, almost a net-work of platforms, commanding every approach to the entrances, and affording advantageous positions for the sling, in the use of which weapon the Britons peculiarly excelled. At Worle Hill, not only is this plan of fortification adopted on the side of the hill, but even the front also of the stone rampart (where it has been cleared) appears to have been composed of a series of platforms rising one above another, almost like the scales of a fish. In cases where no isolated position

could be found, we often find the extreme point of a hill separated from the rest by one or more deep trenches and ramparts, cut quite through the ridge from side to side, and fortified in the manner before described. It is also frequently the case, that a part of the area within the rampart is divided in this way from the rest, and fortified with peculiar care, forming what is almost analogous to the keep of a mediæval castle.

The distinction, then, between Roman and British entrenchments is so marked as almost to obviate the possibility of mistake, where both have been kept separate; and even where the Romans afterwards occupied the British works, as at Hamdon Hill, the site of their camps is easily to be distinguished from the British fortifications. But with regard to Saxon and Danish works, the case is very different, nor am I able to give any criterion by which they may be distinguished from those of the Britons. Kenny Wilkins's castle near the British fortified station at Pen, (which is probably the camp occupied, and perhaps constructed by the West Saxons, in the year 658, when Kenewalch, King of Wessex, defeated the Bretwallas at Pen, and drove them beyond the Parret), has unfortunately been planted; and owing to the thickness of the covert, it is not very easy to trace its original plan. It appears, however, to have consisted of one deep trench between two raised mounds, enclosing a considerable area, having two entrances into the trench through the external rampart, and one through the internal agger; a higher point of ground within the area being separated from the rest by a trench and rampart. The earthworks of the Danes, whose rapid and predatory incursions did not admit of any elaborate fortifications, appear generally to consist of a rude and irregular entrenchment, of no great strength,

usually following the form of the ground, and presenting no very marked features of any fixed system of castrametation. Besides these military works and sepulchral barrows of various dates and constructions, the earthworks generally met with are either lynchets, small enclosures, almost invariably to be traced in the immediate vicinity of British towns and villages :—British trackways, usually running between two low banks :—Roman roads, stretching in straight lines over hill and dale, with a disregard of obstacles worthy of their invincible constructors ; and boundary lines, which are in most cases high banks, with a ditch on one side. There are two other kinds of earth-works, occasionally met with, which are often mistaken for military. One of these consists of a small square area, surrounded by a moat and rampart, which is frequently supposed to be a Roman camp ; this, however, from its small size, and the absence of the four regular gates, can hardly be so, but is, more probably, the site of a Saxon mansion, the wooden buildings of which have entirely disappeared. The other is a large, irregular enclosure, having the mote on the outside, and is probably a very ancient park. Besides these, we often find, on the steep side of a down, a series of terraces evidently artificial. These are generally considered to be the traces of early agriculture, and, in some instances, this may no doubt be the case. But from their analogy to the platforms before mentioned, as of general occurrence in British fortifications, and from the strength of the situations in which they are often found, added to the fact of their being so frequently met with in those districts which we have reason to believe were for centuries the battle-ground of the Belgæ and original British tribes, I am led to think that some, if not the greater number of them, are military field-works, and

probably mark the entrenched positions taken up by armies expecting an attack from superior forces.

But to return to the more immediate subject of my Paper: It is an historical fact that the mineral treasures of Mendip, Bleadon, and Brendon, were known, and highly appreciated, in very early days; and indeed it is a question whether the lead mines of Mendip were not worked by the Phœnicians. Certain however it is, that long before the Roman invasion, a considerable traffic in metals existed between the natives of this district and the more polished inhabitants of Gaul. Nor does it seem improbable that some, at least, of the fortifications of this part of the country may have been connected with this trade. We have certainly a connected line of forts, extending in various directions, within sight of each other, surrounding the mining district of Somerset, on all sides. Along the northern coast, the communication is kept up from the mouth of the Avon, through Sand Point, Worle Hill, Brean Down, Cothelstone, Dousborough, Elworthy, and Dunkerry, with Exmoor and North Devon; and I believe it extends through the county of Cornwall. On the land side, the line extends through Maes Castle, Cadbury, Dundry, Dolebury, Banwell, Musbury, Orchard Castle, Cadbury, near Yeovil, Hamdon Hill, Castle Neroche, Dumpdon, and Hembury, to the south of Devon, Dartmoor, and Cornwall; and yet, though thus evidently connected, the difference of their plans in construction is so striking, that it is hardly possible that they can be the work of one people or of one age.

From some of these points of difference I am inclined to think that they, in fact, belong to two distinct systems of forts—one being originally intended merely to defend the mining district, the other constructed in later days, by the

aboriginal tribes, to secure their frontier from the incursions of the Belgic invaders. I am more disposed to this opinion, from the fact that Worle Hill and Dolebury, (two probably of the most ancient of these hill forts), though within sight of each other, are not absolutely necessary to complete the chain of beacons, and are situated in the very richest part of the mining district, that on Worle Hill having been probably an emporium of the mining trade at the very earliest period. However this may be, it is quite clear that there is a chain of forts of British, or, at all events, ante-Roman origin, protecting the mining district of Somerset, and watching the Belgic frontier, so disposed, that by fires lighted on their heights, intelligence of any approaching danger could be conveyed through a very large district, as quickly as was possible before the electric telegraph annihilated both time and space.

Of this chain of forts, Castle Neroche* is a very important link, communicating on one side with Hamdon Hill; on the other, with Dumpdon, and within sight of Mendip, Brean Down, Cothelstone, Dousborough, and Elworthy. At its eastern extremity, the line of Bleadon Hill suddenly changes its character, and from a tract of tame, though elevated table-land, rises abruptly into what may be called, in comparison with the general outline of the ridge, a bold and striking eminence, commanding, in every direction, a prospect equally remarkable for its great extent and varied beauty. On the north extends the rich vale of Taunton, bounded by the heights of Quantock and the Severn sea, the Havren of the Celtic poets, the habitation of the aboriginal tribe of the Cangi. Beyond this may be seen the hills of South Wales, the mountain home of Caractacus,

* For the derivation of the word Neroche, see Mr. Jones's Paper, on Topographical Etymology, in the present Volume.

and the indomitable Silures. On the west, the ridge of Brendon, the eastern frontier of the Dumnonii, bounds the view. On the south and east extend the territories of the Morini, Durotriges, and Hedui, for centuries the battle-field of the Belgic invaders and the original Loegrian tribes. From this point the beholder may see the earth-works of Dumpdon, Hamdon, Worle, Dousborough, and Elworthy, and immediately on the opposite side of the broad vale, rises the beacon of Cothelston, rendered more conspicuous by the modern tower which crowns its summit. So commanding a point would hardly be neglected on a frontier defended by a system of repeating forts; and accordingly we find it occupied by one of the most remarkable fortifications to be met with in the south of England. Whether, in conjunction with Dumpdon, Hembury, Blackbury, Belbury, Sidbury, and Woodbury, it completed the line of defence constructed by the Dumnonii against their neighbours the Morini; or whether it owes its origin to the Belgic invasion, it is in vain now to enquire, for the history of petty tribes, and their wars, the latest of which probably dates as early as the third century before Christ, we need hardly say, cannot at this day be recovered.

But the earthworks are still before us, and though mutilated and obscured by extensive plantations, are still sufficiently preserved to enable us to form a tolerable conjecture as to their original plan and design; and it will be more interesting to endeavor to show what they were, than to perplex ourselves with guesses about the boundaries and defences of tribes the very existence of which is rather a matter of tradition than of history. Of all the so called improvements of modern days, there is perhaps none more annoying to the antiquary than that, at one time so generally adopted, of planting the areas of ancient fortifica-

tions with trees. In some cases, no doubt, it may have preserved them from the more destructive ravages of the spade and plough; although occupying, as they usually do, the very summits of the highest and most exposed hills, they might be supposed to be tolerably safe from the inroads of the agriculturalist. But even where some good has thus arisen from the practice, the sides of the earth-works are too frequently mutilated, the arrangement of the terraces confused, the traces of hut circles obliterated, and the possibility of obtaining a comprehensive view of the whole fortification totally prevented. Such, I regret to say, is the case at Castle Neroche. I hope however, by the aid of a very accurate and carefully drawn ground-plan, for which I am indebted to Mr. Winter, of Coombe St. Nicholas, to be able to point out what can be seen on the spot by those only who are able and willing to undertake the labor of a rough scramble through a very thick covert.

Leaving then the high road from Taunton to Chard, on the right, after a walk of something more than a quarter of a mile, we arrive at the end of a rampart, consisting of a trench and high bank, on the right side of the path. This is the lowest of a series of what may almost be called fieldworks, protecting the only accessible side of the beacon, and continued quite across the sloping side of the hill, in the form of a small segment of a large circle. On turning either flank of this rampart, we find ourselves in front of another, consisting of a double trench and agger, above which again rises a second segmental rampart, similar in construction to the first, but facing more to the N.W., the interior of which is also flanked by a double trench and rampart; and, still higher up the steep ascent, two more ramparts and ditches occupy the face of the slope, from one precipitous side to the other,

altogether forming a series of works amply sufficient for the protection of the beacon, the two sides of the narrow slope being too steep to require any regular entrenchments, though they were perhaps strengthened by platforms for slingers, some of which, I think, I have succeeded in tracing. We now find ourselves on the top of the beacon: and from this point, but for the plantation, we should obtain a comprehensive view of the whole entrenchment, which lies immediately below us, on the south of a deep trench, dividing the beacon itself from the rest of the hill. This trench may have been in part natural, but it has been so much increased by artificial escarpment, as to render it an efficient defence either to the beacon or to the main fortification, in case either of them was attacked by a hostile force. Round the summit of the beacon itself, traces remain of a massive wall of strongly cemented masonry; but this has been pronounced by a highly competent authority to be of Roman construction, and is consequently of later date than the earthworks I have described; as this, however, probably replaced the stockade of wooden beams, which it is believed usually crowned the British mounds, the beacon must have always presented obstacles well nigh insurmountable to any attack not conducted with the science peculiar to the warfare of civilized nations. From this point, the slopes of the hill towards the north-east, on the one side, and on the south-west on the other, are so steep as not to require any artificial defences; and these accordingly, with the exception perhaps of platforms for slingers, were dispensed with, except in that part of the camp which constitutes that remarkable feature of British fortification, to which I have alluded as being almost analogous to the keep of a mediæval castle. This, in the present instance, is situated imme-

diately to the south of the trench before mentioned, and is defended on the west by the main rampart of the fortification, which is here continued along the very brink of the precipice, and is divided from what I may be permitted to call the inner bailey, by a deep trench and agger, through which, from the north-east, ran the approach to one of the smaller entrances. This rampart has been much mutilated in modern days, the original narrow communication having been enlarged, and the bank and ditch levelled, for the sake of convenience. The way which passes through the ramparts at the north-western corner of the inner bailey, is also modern ; but one of the original gates, probably the main entrance to the place, may still be traced at the north-western corner of the smaller enclosure. This is one of the most remarkable features of the place, and shall be more particularly described hereafter. From this gate, the interior fortifications of the place, consisting of two very deep trenches, with aggers of corresponding magnitude, extend to a considerable distance towards the south-east, and then, turning with an easy curve towards the east, the external rampart of the two finishes near the modern approach to the cottage, from the south-east ; while the interior is continued quite up to the precipitous descent of the hill on the north-east. These ramparts enclose the cottage, with its garden and field, and constituted the great line of defence of the main body of the place. The modern road from the cottage, passing, as before mentioned, through the ramparts on the west, leads us a few yards along the very brink of the steep descent, and at a short distance from the rampart, cuts through the north-western extremity of the external defence of the place. This, like the internal works, consists of a very deep ditch and lofty agger, and extends towards the south-east in a direction parallel to

the two interior lines, forming, on this side, a third line of defence of very great strength, and extending considerably beyond the interior lines, like them turns to the east, and encloses an area of several acres, used probably as a place of safety for cattle, which is generally met with in British fortifications of any considerable importance. The original entrances of this very remarkable fortress, under existing circumstances, are not very easily to be traced. But it would appear that a small path led from the north, under the eastern rampart of the keep, to an entrance situated nearly where the present path-way opens, upon the unplanted space on which the cottage stands; and it is probable that, as at Worle Hill and elsewhere, there was a narrow passage round the extremity of the outer rampart. Whether there was originally any opening in the external fortifications, where the old road from Taunton to Chard now passes, is very doubtful, but there seems to have been one through the inner line, at the point where the outer rampart of the two ceases, and it is likely that the modern path is the original gate widened. If this were not so, the only approach to the larger division of the enclosed area must apparently have been through the smaller and stronger enclosure, an arrangement which hardly seems probable. The entrance to the smaller enclosure may still be traced; it is very curious, and, in all its details, particularly characteristic of British engineering science. A branch of the great Roman fossway, and, no doubt, in earlier days a British trackway, led from Hamdon Hill to Castle Neroche, through Watergore, Hurcott, Atherton, and Broadway, and probably entered the fortification nearly at the southern point of the outer enclosure, where the opening may still be traced, though in a very mutilated con-

dition. On crossing the enclosure towards the inner bailey, we come to a rampart and ditch of considerable size; and passing the eastern extremity of this we find, in front, a similar rampart a few yards further back, the western extremity of which rather overlaps the eastern point of the other, forcing the person approaching the place to pass for some distance between two works, commanding his path on either side. Following this direction, we come to the eastern end of the outer trench of the double rampart of the enclosure, through which trench the path appears to have led between two high banks (the most helpless position in which troops can find themselves), all round the south-western side of the fortification, as far as the modern road and the north-western extremity of the external rampart. Having penetrated thus far, those who survived the storm of stones and arrows, by which their number would no doubt have been much diminished, would find themselves on an open platform on the very brink of the steepest part of the hill, down which they might easily be forced by a small body of defenders posted on the height above, before they could reach the gate leading into the more strongly fortified division of the place, nearly at its north-western corner.

The first point on the plan to which I wish to draw attention, is :—that the area, enclosed within the outer rampart, is divided into three separate portions; of which that immediately within the rampart is much the largest; that within the second line of defence smaller; and the third, which is much more strongly fortified than either of these, the smallest. The beacon, owing to the natural formation of the hill, being in this case outside the main entrenchment, is defended by an entirely independent system of

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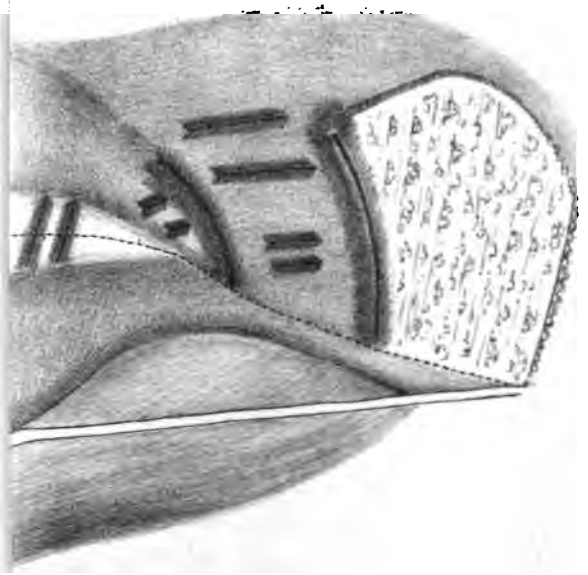


PLAN

OF THE

BRITISH ENCAMPMENT

WITH ITS OUTWORKS, ON

CASTLE NEROCHE,

SOMERSET.

1854.

covered

e dug out.

May, lithog. Taunton

fortifications. This is a very common arrangement in British stations of importance. I imagine the outer enclosure to have been intended for cattle; the second, which is more strongly fortified, to have been occupied by the neighbouring population, who took refuge in the stronghold in times of danger; and the smallest and strongest, to have been the citadel. The analogy between this threefold arrangement and that of a mediæval castle is so evident, that I trust I may be excused the slight anachronism of calling them the outer and inner bailies and keep of the place. This threefold division prevails at Worle Hill, Orchard Castle, near Pen, and, I think, at Hamdon Hill; and I am inclined to believe that, where it is not adapted, the nature of the ground rendered it unnecessary or inconvenient, as at Cadbury, where there are but two; or the fortification was constructed in a hurried manner, on some particular emergency, as it appears was the case at Dousborough, the work being probably incomplete in its details. The two ramparts facing the southern entrance, and slightly overlapping each other, show a method of fortification also to be seen in great perfection at Worle Hill, where the ground, for a considerable distance in front of the strongest part of the place, is trenched with several parallel ditches, rendering a direct approach to the ramparts almost impossible. The approach to the entrance of what I have called the keep, running as it does between two high ramparts, is a good specimen of the rude science often to be met with in British works. I have not discovered at Neroche any traces of flanking out-works, which form striking features of the plans both of Worle and Dolebury; nor does there appear to have been any masonry except the Roman work already

mentioned on the beacon, though this may perhaps be accounted for by the woodland nature of the country, which would have furnished ample materials for palisades. On the whole, I am inclined to the opinion, that Neroche, though undoubtedly a British work, is not one of the very earliest date, and probably owes its origin to the Belgic invasion. This opinion is, in some degree, confirmed by the relics of antiquity which have been from time to time discovered on the spot. None of the pottery is of the same kind as that dug up at Worle and Sand Point, but appears to be Roman ware, of a very coarse description, some fragments of which being evidently failures in the making, would lead us to suppose that there had been a manufactory of earthenware on the spot. As far as I can find out, no weapons or ornaments of stone or bronze have ever been found there. I have been told that iron arrow-heads have been found on the beacon, but I have not been fortunate enough to see one of them. An iron sword-blade is also said to have been found at the spot marked in the plan, which, from the description given of it, I imagine to have been similar to those found on Hamdon Hill, which are probably British, of the Roman period. Several skeletons have also been dug up from time to time, one of which is stated to have been enclosed in a wooden coffin of enormous thickness, and was probably an interment of the fourth or fifth century. Curious excavations have also been found; these are circular, eight or ten feet in diameter, and seven or eight feet in depth, but their shape, that of an inverted cone, (which, in one that I saw, was distinctly marked by the light colour of the sand that had filled it), forbids the supposition that they were hut circles; but I offer no suggestion as to their use, unless they

may be supposed to have been silos, or subterranean granaries.

But perhaps the most remarkable discovery which has been made in connection with the fortress of Neroche, remains to be mentioned. The name of the parish in which this curious entrenchment is situated is Staple Fitzpayne, the first part of which a local antiquary of great research derived from the Latin Stabula, and considered it to indicate the vicinity of a Roman cavalry station. And in confirmation of this opinion, the workmen engaged in draining a field at about the distance of a quarter of a mile, discovered an immense heap of cinders and scoriæ, such as might be expected near a very large forge, and among them a considerable number of horse shoes, evidently of very ancient date. One of them, being shewn to a groom of great experience, was pronounced by him to be a shoe of excellent construction, and to have the plate sloped away, so as to protect the sole of the foot from pressure, which is generally supposed to be an improvement of modern veterinary science. So true it is, that there is nothing new under the sun.

I have now only to draw attention to the deep indentations on the side of the beacon. These are modern ravages, and their true history is as follows: About a hundred years ago, a number of laboring men, urged on by the love of filthy lucre, and not having the fear of Archæological societies before their eyes—not induced thereto by any hope of increasing their antiquarian and historical knowledge, but simply that they might obtain money—with sacrilegious spade and pick-axe, violated the sanctity of this mysterious hill. But before they had found a single coin they were seized with a panic fear, renounced

their presumptuous enterprize; and, wonderful and awful to relate, within one month from the commencement of their attempt, some by accident; some by sudden death; and some by violent fevers; all paid with their lives the penalty of their covetous and most presumptuous attempt. Oh! that this most veracious legend were universally published, as a warning to all wanton mutilators of ancient earthworks.

On Ancient Sepulchral Remains discovered in and around Bath.

BY THE REV. H. M. SCARTH, M.A.

AMONG the many antiquities that have been found in Bath and its neighbourhood, there are none more frequent than the stone coffin. These have been dug up in every locality, and a uniform appearance is found to pervade the whole. Just previous to the meeting of the Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society in Bath, a discovery was made in Russell Street of several of these sepulchral remains, one of which was opened and examined at the time of the meeting, but without any particular result being obtained, or any very important conclusion come to. The discovery of these led to further enquiry, which has brought to light some particulars which it may not be uninteresting to place before this meeting; not that it is apprehended any new ideas can be suggested, but it is rather with the hope of calling forth information and eliciting remark, that these observations are offered.

Some months ago a fresh discovery was made at Combe Down, the particulars of which are worthy the attention of the meeting, and that the facts may not be lost, I have determined to place them on record. It may not however be uninteresting, in the first place, briefly to refer to the discoveries made in Russell Street in September, 1852. An account of them was given in the *Bath Chronicle*, from which the following is an extract, and which may be relied upon as correct:

"On Friday last, the 10th inst., while the workmen were excavating the road at the top of Russell Street, for the purpose of enlarging the sewer, they discovered four stone coffins, with the heads lying to the N.E. One (the smallest) had no lid; the others were covered. They were disposed in pairs; the upper ones nearly parallel, side by side, about two feet apart: the lower pair about a yard distant; lying immediately above these was a skeleton. In the first coffin was found a skeleton of large size; in the next, two skulls, with various bones; the small coffin contained no skull, but loose bones. One of the coffins was preserved untouched till Monday, when it was carefully removed, and afterwards examined. It was covered with a regularly adjusted lid, not with a plain slab (as was the case with the others we have mentioned), the coffin being bevelled off at the foot, to allow the cover to fit more closely; the upper end of the lid seemed to have been slightly lifted up. The cover was of superior workmanship. The coffin was full of a soft clayey earth, with two human vertebræ lying on it. The earth being removed, a perfect skeleton, supposed to be that of a female, was found; it was lying on its left side, with the right arm crossing the breast, the left arm extended down the side. The remaining contents of the coffin were part of an infant's jaw; a metal pin,

nearly two inches in length, but much corroded, together with the head of a smaller one; portions of the jaws of two small animals, and a considerable quantity of a peculiar bituminous substance, which left a greasy purple stain, when rubbed between the fingers. We may add that in the neighbourhood of the coffin were discovered some fragments of an earthen vessel, a coin of Constantine, several pieces of glass of a beautifully purple green hue, with various bones of graminivorous animals.

"As far as can be made out by examination of the human bones, it is evident that they form part of eight skeletons—three being those of children of about the ages of two, six, and ten or twelve; the remaining five skeletons were those of adults.

"Yesterday morning a fifth coffin was discovered. It was found in a line with those to which we have already referred. It contains the perfect skeleton of, apparently, a larger body than any of those found in the other coffins, and a small urn of dark pottery which was placed on the right side of the skeleton, near the ribs. The urn (which is quite perfect, with the exception of being very slightly chipped on the rim), is now in the Museum of the Bath Literary and Scientific Institution, having been given to the corporation of Bath by W. Long, Esq. The contents of the urn, described by the workmen as being yellowish earth, were unfortunately shaken out by them, so that it cannot be ascertained what they were. The coffin contained, also, a small quantity of earth, but not sufficient to prevent the skeleton from being completely seen on the removal of the cover, which is in two or three pieces. In addition to the above-mentioned urn, some interesting fragments of Roman pottery were found at the excavations.

"Yesterday evening a sixth stone coffin was discovered,

containing the skeletons of two children, about eight or nine years of age.

"The following statements will show that previous discoveries of this kind have been made in the same locality.

"In the year 1818, during some excavations made at No. 11, Russell Street, 'three perfect skeletons were found lying beside each other (one of immense stature), with several copper coins of Vespasian.' In November, 1836, at No. 12, 'a stone coffin was found, and beneath it two entire human skeletons.'

"The ground on which this street stands was originally a botanic garden, formed by David Russell, an apothecary, who died in 1765—from whom the street is supposed to have taken its name. This fact is further corroborated by reference to an old deed of a house in the neighbourhood, wherein it is expressed as being situated on land 'called Russell's Close, otherwise Holdstock's Garden.'

"As the mode of burial in stone coffins seems to have prevailed in Bath and its neighbourhood, perhaps it may not be uninteresting to mention a few of the other sites in which they have been found:—

"In the lane leading from Lansdown to Weston, a stone coffin may be seen serving the purpose of a watering trough.

"March, 1808, in digging the foundation of a new house at St. Catherine's Hermitage, near Lansdown Crescent, some stone coffins were discovered. 'The first was found below the walls of the old building, the head to the N.E. In it was a complete skeleton, very perfect, six feet long: close to the bones of the feet were a number of iron rivet nails, some held together by a substance like thin plates of iron, the nails in general half-an-inch to the point; some fragments of black pottery and a few long nails were seen

mixed with the earth inside the coffin, but no coins. Outside the cover on the right hand lay a skeleton with its head to the feet of the other, the bones of a very large size, and near them were some remains of a jaw, resembling that of a horse.' 'The head of the second coffin was to the S.W.; on the cover was a skeleton of very large size, with the handle of a sword and part of the blade; all of iron, much corroded; there is a guard to the handle like like that of a cutlass. No pottery.'

"We may notice that the eccentric Philip Thicknesse buried his daughter in his garden, of which an account is given in his memoirs.

"May, 1815, on the premises of Messrs. Sainsbury and Co., Walcot, two stone coffins, containing skeletons, were found (one with the face downwards), and 'a half-pint of various coins,' but of whose time is not mentioned.

"In the same month, also, one was exhumed in the garden at the back of Upham's Library, near the Orange Grove.

"May 1822, two stone coffins were found near Burnt House Turnpike Gate, and, previously to this, two near Claremont Place, Combe Down.

"June, 1824, at Lambridge, a sandstone coffin of rude construction, containing two skeletons, one an adult, the other a child were discovered; 'near the head of the coffin were two rings of a yellow metal, 1½ inch in diameter, narrow and flat, and covered with the green patina so much admired by antiquarians; near it were found three pins, the larger two inches long, of a green colour, the two others were broken: their use was probably to connect the grave clothes; another skeleton was found near the place.'

"September 1840, one or two coffins were found, with

skeletons, whilst digging the foundation of St. Stephen's church.

"In the year 1843, the workmen employed in the construction of a new cemetery in Lyncombe Vale, discovered a stone coffin, containing the remains of a human being, and to all appearance a man of 60 or 70, and of deformed stature. The coffin lay in a S.S.E. direction; it was found broken; the fracture, it is presumed by some, having been made at the interment from too quickly coming in contact with a stratum of rock, on which it was found. The lid of the coffin was also broken; and though it appeared to have borne an inscription, or some rudely carved memorial of the deceased, ingenuity is at fault in seeking to decipher it. Afterwards, a second coffin was exhumed, being found only about 14 inches beneath the turf. This relic was about 6½ feet in length, formed of one block of oolite, and excepting its weighty lid, unbroken. The skeleton it contained (supposed to be Roman) was much more perfect than that previously found, and was that of a tall man. Speaking phrenologically, the skull exhibited the general character of a Roman cranium. This coffin had been sculptured with more care than the preceding one, but it was of rude conformation; the sides and massive cover were covered with diagonal lines, but no letters were visible. Not far from the coffins were also found three copper coins; one was a counterfeit sterling of the reign of Edward I. The remaining two were struck by the Emperors Constantine and Carausius. The date on the former of these was sufficiently legible to be read without difficulty; the latter was very much injured, as, indeed, are all the coins of Carausius that have been discovered in this country, and they generally require to be submitted to the educated eyes of those skilled in numismatics. We consider it important

that the coin of Carausius was found *near* the discovered coffins, as it may serve to fix the date when the spot was used by the Romans as a cemetery.

"A skeleton was dug up at the Gas Works in 1815, and a Roman urn, with reticulated lines; and skeletons were dug up in the Gravel Walk in 1844, and in the Park in 1847; but there are no records of stone coffins.

"It is a singular circumstance that one or more skeletons are generally found lying near the coffins.

"Stone coffins are frequently discovered in barrows, which also contain Roman urns, proving their use in England at that period. Sir Christopher Wren found such, at the rebuilding of St. Paul's; and Gough adds that, from the ninth century to the reign of Henry III., stone coffins were in general use—that is, for persons of the higher classes. The bodies of the common people, not only in the Norman, but also in the English era, as we see from the illuminations of ancient missals, were only wrapped in cloth, and so put into the ground. In this manner, Matthew Paris informs us, the monks of St. Alban's were buried till the time of Abbot Warin, who died in 1195. He ordered that they should be buried in stone coffins, as more decent. Matthew Paris, on this occasion (Hist. Abb. St. Alb. p. 95) charges him with innovations on established customs, to please the multitude. Strutt says, in the reigns of Henry V. and VI. stone coffins were made with necks, distinguishing the head and shoulders.

"That stone coffins were used up to a comparatively recent date may be inferred from the fact that at Monkton Farley, near Bath, specimens of superior workmanship (with necks as above described) were discovered, a few years ago, in connection with effigies and architectural fragments, leading to the belief that such a mode of burial

prevailed at the time the monastery was in existence there, from A.D. 1125, to the dissolution.

"A gentleman of this city has informed us that he has seen stone coffins of a shape similar to those found here, equally rude in construction, dug up in the island of Cephalonia.

"Further discoveries were afterwards made in Russell Street, and a seventh coffin was dug up. As the coffins first exhumed were lying in pairs, it might be inferred that, by excavating laterally from the seventh coffin, another would be discovered lying near it. Several large bones were dug out, as well as the lower stone of an ancient hand-mill, or quern, for grinding corn, which is now in the Literary and Scientific Institution. A wall, taking a north-east direction, was also discovered; it was three feet wide, at the base, but tapered towards the top, and was constructed of rough-hewn stones, apparently obtained from the neighbourhood of Lansdown, so firmly embedded in each other that they were separated with great difficulty; the mortar or cement, could not be distinguished. The portion laid bare was about five feet in length, and formed part of a circle; it was nine feet distant from the spot covered by the head of the seventh coffin; and a few feet from the edge of the macadamized road, between this and Russell Street, the whole of the coffins were deposited. This discovery has led to some interesting speculations. One view of the matter is, that the wall may indicate that the ground was enclosed for the purpose of sepulture, and, if so, traces of it may be found running along at the back of the houses on the western side of the street, so as to surround the coffins discovered some years since. Another view is, that the wall served as a boundary between this burial place, and the Roman road, the *Via Julia*, which, it is known, ran along at the top of

the street; and, if we assume that these coffins are Roman, some confirmation is given to this view by the frequent discoveries of Roman sepulchral remains in the present burial ground of Walcot, along the side of which passed the Roman road leading into 'The City of the Waters of the Sun.'"

The above particulars relate to the stone coffins found in Russell Street, and to the other places which have come under the notice of the writer of the account which appeared in the *Chronicle*. The following is a letter from the Rev. J. Bond, Vicar of Weston, giving an account of the various instances which he has been able to collect of such remains being found in that part of the neighbourhood of Bath, where he resides.

"Weston Vicarage, Sept. 17, 1852.

"DEAR CAPTAIN CHAPMAN,—You desired me to collect for you what information I could respecting the stone coffins which at different times have been found in this parish. I regret that I have been so long in complying with your request, but I have found much difficulty in ascertaining the facts, and I have been unwilling to communicate them before I was able to do so on what appeared to be sufficient authority.

"I am informed that three stone coffins have been met with at different times, lying *singly*, in fields south of the farm house occupied by Mr. Thomas Davis, in Lansdown Lane; three or four, *together*, immediately behind Weston farm house, in the occupation of Mr. Powney; one in Mr. Saunders's field at Foxhale, and one in Langridge common. But the largest number that has been discovered, were dug up about the year 1825, at or near the site of Partis College, which appeared to have been an ancient burial ground of considerable extent. Three were found, two at the back

and one in the front of the Chapel there, and the remains of a wooden one, in digging the foundations of the west wing. This last was much damaged; it was of very large dimensions, and appeared to have borne plates of metal, similar to the furniture of modern coffins. In the area between the three sides of the college buildings, and a little to the east of the front of the chapel, there was a bason-shaped hollow sunk into the rock, in which a large number of bodies had been interred without coffins. The skeletons remained, and the earth in which they were embedded is said to have been of a very fatty nature, and so slippery, that the workmen could not stand upon it if the surface was not level. About the same time no less than a dozen stone coffins were discovered by Thomas Bullock, in trenching some ground for a garden then held by him, but now in the occupation of Captain Fownes, immediately behind the college premises. On the same ground he also found remains of buildings, which appeared to have undergone the action of fire. On the floor of a small chamber, or cist, some charred wheat was observed; a road, covered with yellow gravel, ran from this spot in a direction towards the village of Weston. Some coins were found with these remains, but they were not preserved, and it is not known to what era they belonged, although I remember to have heard a report, when I first came to the parish of Weston, that they were Roman.

"All the coffins above mentioned were of the common trough-shaped form, without any hollow for the head; they were of Bath freestone, covered with the same material, without effigy or inscription. The covers were about a foot beneath the surface of the ground; they were lying in all directions, and, when east and west, the head was sometimes to the east.

"In making some repairs at the Chapel Farm, on Lansdown, last year, twelve skulls were discovered on the south side of the house, placed with their faces downwards, and without any trace of the other portions of the skeletons. I understand that several stone coffins have been found about the rectory house, in the parish of Langridge; and in the neighbouring hamlet of Beach, there is a field called 'Coffin Tining,' where they have also been met with."

Stone coffins were found, about twelve years ago, at English Coombe, near Bath, where the remains of the Wansdyke are still so distinctly to be traced. They have also been found at Bitton, (probably the ancient Abone) through which passed the Roman road to the Trajectus, and communicated with Wales. The coffins found at Bitton were near the site of a Roman villa, N.E. of Ashton Lodge, where Roman pottery has also been found. In the coffins discovered at Langridge, some years since, a war implement, not unlike in form to an Indian tomahawk, and a spur, are said to have been found. Unhappily all these coffins were broken up and used as paving-stones for the yard of a house erected on the spot. Stone coffins have also been found in the parish of Bathwick, just at the foot of the hill; one of these is still preserved, being walled into the boundary of the burying-ground.

On the ascent of the hill, and not far from a barrow, in opening a quarry, two skeletons were found in a sitting posture; the graves have since been destroyed. On the summit of the hill are the very interesting remains of an ancient British settlement, where there are several barrows, which appear never to have been opened.

We now proceed to a description of those lately discovered at Combe Down.

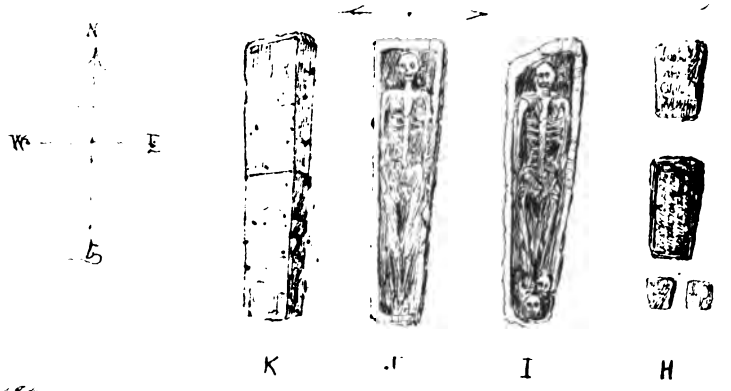
The occasion of the discovery was the making a garden

wall, the boundary of a new villa, just beyond the church. The situation of them is on the declivity of a hill, and a little lower down are the remains of a Roman villa, which was begun to be disinterred a few years since, but, for some reason, the work was discontinued. The builder who has taken the land, and intends constructing a modern habitation on it, has assured me that the old foundations shall be examined with the greatest care, and any objects of antiquity preserved. The site is very picturesque, looking direct south, and shielded on the north and east by gently sloping hills, having an open view of Mitford Castle to the south, with the Wiltshire downs in the back ground. Just above the site of this villa the coffins were found, and with them several pieces of broken pottery, and an entire small earthen vessel, now in the possession of the Rev. W. L. Nichols, of Lansdown Crescent, and undoubtedly Roman. Also a coin of the Emperor Licinius, now in my keeping. The coffins are three in number. These are all that have been at present discovered, but as the excavations are continued along the hill side, in a westerly direction, probably more may be found. They were not many inches under ground, the end of one having been struck by the cart-track, which went close past them. The coffins were placed directly north and south, with the feet to the south, so that the faces looked toward the mid-day sun.

In each of the two which lie towards the east, were skeletons of females, one said to be about forty-five years old, apparently, and the other thirty. These two coffins were of a large size, and the skeletons large also. They were three feet apart, and nine or ten inches from them lies a coffin somewhat smaller, square-headed, and of much better workmanship, which contained a male skeleton,

PLAN OF ANCIENT BURIAL GROUND:
DISCOVERED AT:
COMB DOWN NEAR BATH.

2 FEET. 5 INCHES the distance between each Skeleton.



A: OBLONG STONE BOX CONTAINING HEAD OF A HORSE AND SOME OTHER BONES.

B: STONE COFFINS CONTAINING SKELETONS

C: — SUPPOSED TO BE FEMALE.

D: STONE COFFIN CONTAINING SKELETON — SUPPOSED TO BE MALE.

E: STONE CIST CONTAINING BURNT BONES.

F: EARTHEN WARE JARS CONTAINING BURNT BONES.

G:

FORTY SEVEN FEET BETWEEN THE TWO INNER SKULLS OF OUTER COFFINS.

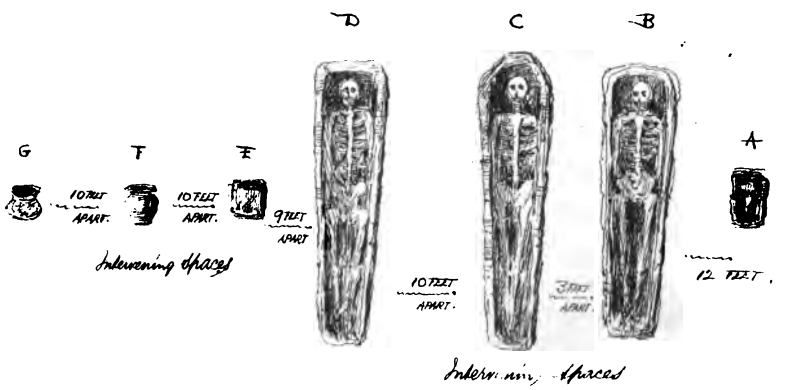
H: INSCRIBED STONES PLACED ON THE LOWER PART OF STONE COFFIN I.

I: STONE COFFIN WITH MALE SKELETON

HAVING A COIN IN THE MOUTH AND SKULL AT FEET.

J: STONE COFFIN WITH SKELETON OF LARGE SIZE.

K: LID OF THE SAME.



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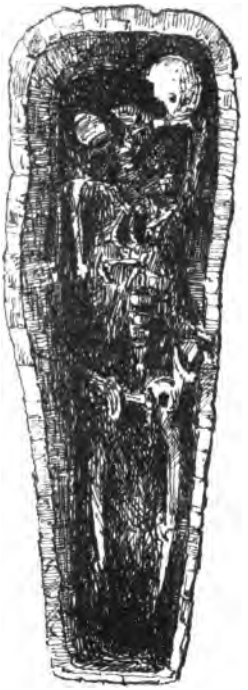
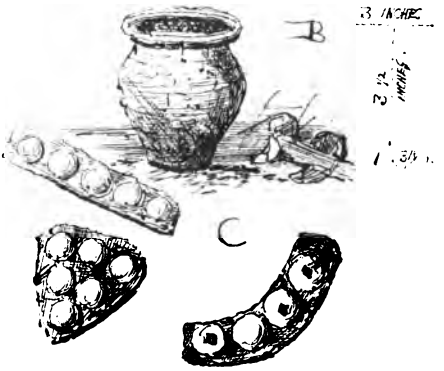


A



A: STONE COFFIN found in Rescued chest:

B: EARTHEN POT found in the COFFIN:

C: STUDS connected by thin metal plates - found at the feet of the Skeleton.

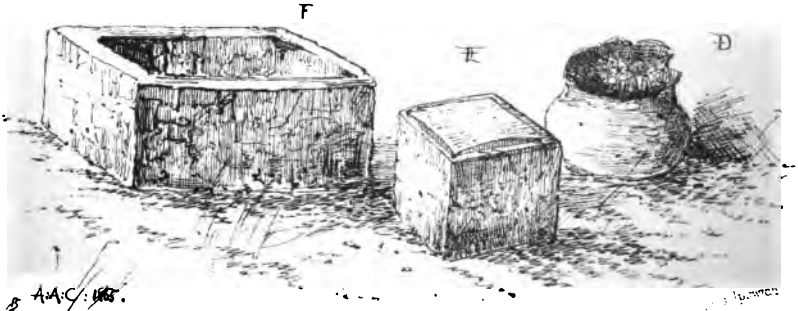
D: EARTHEN VASE containing Burnt Bones:

E: STONE CIST containing burnt bones:

F: STONE BOX containing skull and bones of a horse:

All found at COMB DOWN - BATH.

F



A.A.C. 1963.

smaller than those of the females. On the east side of the first coffin, and about twelve feet from it, was found an oblong box, with a cover to it, measuring twenty inches by fourteen, which contained the head of a horse. A skeleton was also found lying bent round the head of the first coffin, and about two feet distant from it. But the most curious portion of the discovery was a stone chest, full of *burnt bones*, measuring twelve inches by nine, and six and a quarter inches deep. The lid is so contrived as to fit into the top of the box, and is slightly oval on the outside. This chest was distant nine feet from the last of the three stone coffins, namely, that containing the skeleton of the man ; a few feet above this chest, a skeleton has since been found. In order to form any correct idea of the dates of these interments, or the nation to which they belonged, it will be necessary to compare them with similar discoveries in other parts of England. I am inclined to think that they go back to an early period, at least prior to the Saxon invasion. In the Saxon burial-grounds which have been lately examined, I am not aware that any stone coffins have been discovered.

The investigations which have lately been made in the Anglo-Saxon Cemetery, at Harnham, near Salisbury, and those made in Lynton Heath, Cambridgeshire, have thrown much light upon the manner of Anglo-Saxon burials; but in neither case are any stone coffins mentioned. The contents of these three coffins, as far as they have been investigated, have only revealed what is stated to have been found in those discovered in Russell Street, namely, long iron nails, and small iron studs, united together, and lying near the feet, which have apparently formed part of the sandals.

I have in my possession a curious stone ornament, with a

circular hole in the centre, the stone itself being circular, with two flat surfaces. This may have been placed as a talisman or a charm, or have served merely as a rude ornament.

On visiting the Museum at York, this winter, I was struck by the resemblance of the coffins found in Bath, to some that are there preserved, and which have been discovered around the ancient city. York was the ancient Eburacum, the quarters of the Sixth Legion, very striking records of which are still preserved there. It was also the residence of Roman Emperors, and the remains that have been found there, surpass in interest those of almost any other city in England. They are preserved with much care, and have been recorded in a learned work by the Rev. C. Wellbeloved, from which I have extracted the account of stone coffins there discovered. Some of the chests found in York have Latin inscriptions upon them, by which they are undoubtedly proved to be Roman; others are plain, and without any inscription at all, but in size and shape exactly correspond to those found in Bath.

Many coffins, says Mr. Wellbeloved, in general rudely formed of a coarse grit-stone, a few of lead, originally perhaps cased in wood, have, at various times, been found in the vicinity of York. In the year 1813, some workmen engaged in digging a sunk fence, found two very large coffins of grit-stone, placed close to each other, one side of each neatly panelled, and the lids, as usual, slightly ridged. Each coffin contained an entire skeleton, (p. 108). Two stone coffins, of a coarser grit, and of inferior workmanship, were recently found in a gravel-pit in Heslington Field, by the side of the road from Heslington to Grimston, and probably not far from the line of Roman road from Eburacum to Derventio; one of these was presented

to the York Museum. On removing the lid, the coffin appeared to be almost half filled with lime, excepting the place in which the head had lain. The lime having been very carefully taken out, the lower surface presented a distinct impression of a human body, over which, with the exception of the face, the lime had been poured in a liquid state, the body having been first covered with a cloth, the texture of which is still clearly to be seen in the impression on the lime. The feet had been crossed, and covered with shoes or sandals, having nails in the soles, the marks of which on the lime are distinctly visible, and several of the nails themselves were found in the coffin, in a very corroded state. These nails correspond with what have been found in the coffins in Bath and at Combe Down. A very small portion of the bones remained, sufficient however to indicate that they were the bones of a female.

All the teeth, except one, were found with the enamel undecayed. Just above the left shoulder, a small portion of a gold ring appeared; and the lime surrounding it being carefully scraped away, the remnants of a lady's ornaments were brought to light, consisting of fragments of large jet rings, two earrings of fine gold, two bracelets, several brass or copper rings, one of which resembled a cogwheel, about two inches in diameter, three finger rings, one of them of jet, of a modern pattern, and two necklaces; one of the necklaces was formed of glass beads, yellow and green; the others, of small beads of coral, intermixed with smaller beads of blue glass, strung in both cases on very slender twisted silver wire. All these, with the coffin and the lime, are deposited in the Museum of the Philosophical Society.

In the spring of 1841, when workmen were employed in removing earth to the depth of three or four feet, for the

purpose of forming the North of England Railway, several stone coffins, containing lime, were discovered, just without the walls of York, but the skeletons in no case entire.

It is remarked, that of the great number of stone coffins which have been at various times discovered at York, very few have been found bearing an inscription.

Three only are known, which are engraved in Mr. Wellbeloved's Eburacum, (see page 110.) It is singular that very near to the first of these, the skeleton of a horse was found lying; and Gough, in his Sepulchral Remains, vol i. p. 22, notices a similar circumstance at Chute. At Combe Down we have the head and some bones of the horse enclosed in a stone chest. The reason of the interment of the horse, or some portion of its remains, near the human skeleton, would form a very interesting subject of enquiry, and might be pursued with advantage. Instances of it occur not merely in Roman, but in Saxon burials. I am informed that in one of the graves at Linton Heath, opened by Mr. Neville, the skeleton of a Saxon was found, with a horse's skull placed on the leg bones; no other bones of the horse occurred there. In the Memoirs of the Society of Antiquaries of Picardy, vol. v., p. 145, there is a paper on the Remains of Horses, found near Gaulish tombs and places of sacrifice, by the Abbé Santerre. Not having the work at hand, I am unable to state his view of the fact. It has been conjectured that the remains of the horse may be connected with the funeral feast which took place at interment; or it is more probable that the favorite horse was killed at such a time, because he was supposed to be of service to his master in the abodes of the dead. On the tomb of Cecilia Metella, near Rome, horses heads are said to be sculptured in relief. The Hindoos have a custom of sacri-

ficing a horse, and the festival at which this takes place, is called the Aswa Medh.

There is much probability that when the body was interred, it was apparelled as the deceased usually was. The iron nails found at the feet of the skeleton, are remains of sandals, which have, in some instances, been found entire. Thus, at Avisford, in Sussex, there was discovered a pair of well-nailed soles of caligæ. This was a case of cremation; the ashes being in a glass, were surrounded by vases, etc., and all placed in an oblong, rectangular stone box. In graves near Worthing, where was discovered a curious glass bottle, were found, in 1845, remains of well-nailed caligæ. The interments here were by cremation. (See Dixon's *Geology of Sussex*, pp. 43 and 44.) It is curious to find these leathern relics placed with cinerary urns. Leather is less destructible than tissue, and it may be that a complete suit of clothes was placed in the cist, of which these soles are the only reliques preserved. There was certainly a curious notion of giving the dead all they wanted in a future state.

We may remark that in none of the coffins recorded to have been found in and near Bath, do we hear of the bodies having been covered with lime poured into the coffin, and on none of these have any inscriptions been found, unless it be on one discovered in the Widcombe Cemetery, which was illegible. But the slight examination which such remains too often receive, leads us to suppose that many interesting peculiarities are often passed over. There is also a striking difference between the Roman altars found in Bath and those which I have seen elsewhere, and especially in the north of England. The sides of all the altars found in Bath are plain; the altars have merely the inscription on the front,—while in most other altars, we have

the sides ornamented with devices, such as the sacrificial implements, the head of the victim, or some other device.

From the close correspondence of the coffins found in and near Bath with those found in and about York, which have been, without hesitation, assigned to the Roman period, I am inclined to think that the former are Roman also. They are of a humbler description, but the character of the two cities differed essentially; York was an imperial residence at certain times; it was the station of a Legion; officers of the first rank were located there; wealth was there concentrated, and art of a very high order. Whereas Bath was a place of resort for relaxation, and for the restoration of health. The military men who came there were either retired officers, or on leave, for the purpose of recruiting their health, and although the city and neighbourhood was much frequented for pleasure, repose, and relaxation, yet it had not the same character or importance as York. Nor could it be supposed to possess the same amount of opulence, and the same class of workmen, as would naturally congregate about a military station. No doubt the remains of the Temple of Minerva, still preserved in Bath, indicate its importance and its advancement in the arts; but the general class of citizens appear to have been content with humbler memorials than those that have been found in some other parts of our land. The frequency of Roman coins, in connection with these coffins, is a strong corroboration of their Roman origin. But if they be not actually Roman, I think there can be little doubt that they must be referred to the period just preceding the Saxon invasion, and be attributed to the Romano-British inhabitants of the island, who retained the Roman mode of life, while they fell far short of Roman perfection, both in arts and arms.

It will not be well to bring this notice to a conclusion, without mentioning an interesting discovery of a stone coffin, or Roman sarcophagus, which was made on the 24th May, 1853, in London, during excavations for the foundation of a warehouse, near Haydon Square, Minories. This sepulchral chest, which measures about five feet, by two feet one inch, the depth being about three feet, is now in the British Museum. The lid, which is ridged, is sculptured with foliage, and firmly fastened down by iron clamps; one side of the chest is left plain, as if the sarcophagus had been formed to be placed against a wall; on the other side, and at the ends, are sculptures. When the coffin was opened, a leaden one was found within, the lid ornamented with lines of a beaded pattern, in relief, and escalop shells at intervals. Within this were found the remains of a child, supposed to be about eight years old, surrounded by a layer of soft matter, but not sufficient to cover the bones. This was considered to result from the decomposition of the body, and presented no analogy to the bed of lime noticed in the Roman interments at York.

Leaden coffins of the Roman period are not unfrequent in this country; but in no case, it is believed, have they been found placed in a receptacle of stone.

A learned antiquary, who gave an account of this discovery to the Archæological Institute, at one of the monthly meetings, to which I am indebted for this information,—although I have myself seen and examined the sarcophagus —considers that both the stone and lead coffins had been used previously. Clamps of iron seem to be peculiar to the later Roman period, as is shewn by a rude, unsculptured sarcophagus, in the York Museum. The clamping seems, in the present case, to have been added at a later period.

The leaden coffin appears also to have been altered to fit the stone chest. The leaden coffins which have been found with escalops and other ornaments, have been discovered only in the neighbourhood of London, York, and Colchester. (See Weever's *Funeral Monuments*, p. 30; also *Archæologia*, vol. xvii, p. 333, vol. xxxi, p. 308).

This sarcophagus, which, from the style of the sculpture, may be assigned to the fourth century, is formed of the material called Barnack Rag. The character of the sculpture, however, may recall that of an earlier period, as shewn on the tomb of Cecilia Metella, near Rome. A curious narrative of Bede, contained in the fourth book of the Ecclesiastical History, c. xix, confirms the opinion of a secondary interment. It appears from this that stone coffins, discovered on the sites of Roman cities, were taken for the purposes of christian burial in after times. On the site of Camboritum, the Roman Cambridge, stone coffins have been discovered of a large size, similar to those found in Bath and the neighbourhood, without any lids corresponding, but over them small stones, with devices on them, which fix the date of the interment to the time subsequent to the Norman Conquest. (See *Archæologia*, xvii, 221.) The Saxon historian, Bede, relates that the corpse of Ædilthryda, Abbess of Coldingham, had been interred in a wooden coffin, by her desire, on her death, A.D. 679. Her sister and successor, Sexburga, desiring to place her remains in a new receptacle, and to remove them into the church, sent forth some of the brethren to seek stone of which such a coffin might be formed. Having taken ship, and in vain sought for any of sufficient size in the marshy region of Ely, they came to the ruined city of Granta-ceaster, and presently found a suitable coffin near its walls. Regarding this as a providential interposition, they retraced their

steps from the Roman station. The marble chest perfectly fitted the corpse of the abbess; a cavity provided in it for the skull, precisely fitted the head, and it seemed as if the coffin had been prepared specially for her.

In the sepulchral remains found at Combe Down, we have an instance of the two modes of disposing of the dead which are known to have existed among the Romans, namely, by interment and by cremation. And this also leads me to suppose that the remains are to be attributed to the latter period of Roman occupation, or the times which immediately succeeded it. We have the body interred entire, placed in a coffin, and also *not placed* in a coffin. These two modes of sepulture were both common among the ancient Romans; and we have the small chest of burned bones, in which the ashes of the deceased were collected after cremation, and deposited in the earth. This was likewise a Roman custom of disposing of the dead. Again, the site of these remains leads to the supposition that they were Roman. In the country, we generally find the burial-places in the immediate neighbourhood of a villa or hamlet. As I observed before, the remains of a villa are to be traced in front of the spot where the coffins were found.

The stone cist containing the burnt bones is certainly very remarkable. Sepulchral chests of this kind are frequently found on the site of Roman cemeteries; and, according to Montfaucon, the number of square chests predominates over the round. Chests are also found which are made of tiles, and these are said to be more common in Roman burial places than stone chests. A remarkable stone one was found at Avisford, in Sussex, in 1817. Avisford is in the immediate neighbourhood of several large Roman villas, and not far from that of Bignor, where the very interesting pavements are still preserved. It ap-

pears to have been a chest formed out of a solid stone, and covered with a flat slab or lid. Mr. Wright describes it as containing in the middle a large square vase of fine green glass, containing calcined bones. In a Roman cemetery, at Cirencester, was found a stone which had been cut into the shape of a short cylindrical column. This had been sawn through the middle, and in the centre of the lower half was cut a cell to contain the urn, which was enclosed by joining the two parts of the column together. (See Mr. Wright's *Celt, Roman, and Saxon*, p. 306.)

We find that sepulchral urns were of different sizes and forms, and made of various materials, according to the wealth of the deceased, whose ashes they were to contain, and the taste of the surviving relatives. When made of marble, they were generally *rectangular*, adorned with bas-reliefs, often of beautiful workmanship, and contained inscriptions.

We are not to expect, on the site of a Roman villa, at some distance from a town, and in a Roman province at the extremity of the empire, the same amount of art which is displayed in the elaborate works preserved in Rome. The provincials were, no doubt, content with very humble imitations of the customs prevalent in the capital, and in rich cities ; a plain stone chest, of small dimensions, would, in a country seat in the provinces, perform the part allotted to a rich marble sarcophagus in the capital, and be made the depository of the remains of what was valued and loved while living.

Montfaucon, *L'Ant. Exp.* tome v., pt. 1, p. 55, pl. xviii, gives a drawing containing the façade, the plan, the *urns*, and the inscriptions of a tomb of the family of Furia, discovered in 1665, at Camaldules, in the high ground above

Frescati, in Italy. Everything is very simple. The urns, or chests, are made *square shaped*, and the cover is ridged. This monument is said to be more ancient than any in Italy, of the same kind, as appears from the character of the inscriptions. The inscriptions upon the two urns, or chests, are not easy to decipher; but the true reading appears to be—Lucio Turpleio Lucii filio. Turpleio may stand for Turpilio, which was the name of a Roman family. The other will be Quinto Turpleio Lucii filio. All the other inscriptions are of the Furian family. Fourio is for Furio, in the manner of the ancient Romans.

A question has arisen on the subject of cremation,—how it was possible to preserve the ashes of the persons apart from the ashes of the pile on which the body was burned? There is, in Montfaucon, an interesting letter detailing the circumstance of the discovery of a garment, or covering, of what the Greeks called Asbestos, in one of the sepulchral urns found near Rome. This had been subjected to the action of fire, and was found to be scorched by the heat, and partially burned; it was placed, together with the bones, in the funereal urn. We may suppose, therefore, that in some instances the device was used of wrapping the body in this material; but it appears probable that the bones, when reduced to ashes, might generally be distinguished from the wood ashes. We know that when the body had been consumed, and the pile reduced to ashes, these were extinguished by having, in many instances, wine poured on them, which custom it was found necessary afterwards to regulate, as needlessly extravagant, and it was made lawful only to use water for such purposes.

It would be very interesting to trace the various modes of sepulture which have prevailed at different periods, and

thus endeavor to throw some light upon the present subject; but this would occupy too much time. Let us hope that these very imperfect remarks may induce some other member of the society, more competent than myself, to pursue the subject further, and thus bring to light much that would clear up historical doubt.

The application of Philology to Archæological Investigation.

BY REV. WM. ARTHUR JONES, M.A.

IT is always interesting, and, I would add, though it may not be so regarded in this utilitarian age, even profitable, to mark the remains and to trace the footsteps of the various tribes which, in byegone ages, have successively occupied the land in which we dwell. The associations which thus gather around the localities the eye becomes familiar with in our daily walks, greatly enhance the pleasure and the profit arising from the contemplation of the scenery around us; and we live, for a time, not only in the present, but in the past; while, to the mind's eye, the mountain and the dell become peopled again by their ancient inhabitants.

In almost every district in Great Britain, and especially in the West of England, we meet with many undoubted remains of our primæval ancestors, the ancient Britons, which have survived the destroying power of time, and continue, to the present day, striking monuments of the

power and greatness of that extraordinary people. As might have been expected, however, the incessant tide of ages has washed away many of their works, and rendered faint and indistinct many of their footprints. But, as the geologist delights in the faintest impress of organic remains when they present themselves in the primæval rocks ; so does the antiquarian delight in every new discovery of the remains of ancient times, and in every new gleam of light from old discoveries, which helps to define and illustrate the great epochs of his country's history. Each great geological period, we know, is distinguished by peculiar and characteristic forms of organized life; hence, the occurrence of even a fragment of shell, or coral, or bone, or plant, is sufficient to enable the experienced geologist to determine the exact place any particular formation holds in the great series of created being. That which is true of the phenomena of the material world, is not less true of those which present themselves in connexion with the human race. For here, likewise, the form of the earthwork ; the masonry of the wall ; the shape and design of the pottery ; the curve and mouldings of the arch; the tracery of the window, whether presented entire or in fragments; are, in reality, so many *dates* impressed upon these remains of antiquity, enabling us to assign each to its true period and its people.

Besides, and in addition to, these, which may be called the *material* tokens left to us by former generations, we have in the elements of our language, and especially in the names of mountains and towns, of rivers and encampments, another class of remains, not less deserving of our attention, nor likely to be much less profitable to those who are engaged in antiquarian research. It is to this—the application of Philology to Archæological investigation—

that I have now the honor to direct your attention ; more especially, as it relates to the West of England in general, and to the county of Somerset in particular.

While treating of words, I need hardly observe, that if time has dealt so roughly with the material remains of the handywork of by-gone ages, and has changed to a great extent their outline and their form, we cannot expect the fleeting sounds of the human voice,—the utterances of human thought—to have altogether escaped its influence. We must, therefore, be prepared to allow some margin in our derivations; more especially as some of the names of places in this county, undoubtedly had their origin, and were in use here, many ages before the Roman invasion. Besides, it should be borne in mind, that all those names for which we claim a Celtic origin, have been handed down to the present age, through generations of men altogether ignorant of their original signification. Yet, notwithstanding that so powerful a cause of corruption and change has existed for so many centuries, we find most of the local names retaining, in an extraordinary degree, their original form and sound.

I am very sensible of the difficulties which necessarily attend an investigation of this nature ; in which, perhaps, more than in any other, the imagination is like to outstrip the judgment. At the same time, seeing that among the Celtic race the names of places were always designed to be descriptive, we evidently possess, in the general outline and prominent features of the country, at the same time a guide, and a check, in our philological enquiries : and the results of Topographical Etymology become more sure and certain than otherwise could have been expected. In confirmation of this view, it is especially interesting to observe, that even where great physical changes have

undoubtedly occurred, the names of places in the district have been retained, though they evidently had their origin in, and literally describe, a state of things which does not now exist. Striking instances of this present themselves in the names of Ched-zoy; Middle-zoy; and Weston-zoyland;—places which now stand on red-marl prominences slightly elevated above the alluvial deposit of the Bridgwater levels, but which, during the early period of Saxon occupation, were evidently surrounded by water. These names, as well as that of Langport, contain in themselves the physical history of the places they stand for; and the use made of them and other words of the same character, in the paper on Langport, the Llongborth of Llywarch Hên's Elegy,* amply justifies the claim of philology to be regarded as the hand-maid of archæology.

There can be no doubt, that the different races which, one after the other, have had possession of this country, have left behind them, in the names given to their settlements, distinct traces of their successive occupation: and it would be very interesting, and likewise instructive, to have the names of places in the county, whether Celtic, or Roman, or Danish, or Saxon, classified according to their origin. Such a classification is, no doubt, practicable; but it will necessarily involve great research, and lengthened investigation, to make it complete. It cannot, perhaps, be expected as the work of one man; but rather as the result of accumulated observations made at different times, and in different localities, by those who are interested in antiquarian pursuits in the county. The following explanation of names which seem to me to be of Celtic origin, I now submit to the members of the Society, as a contribution towards this object, in the hope that

* See Proceedings 1853, p. 44.

others will help to render complete this much-needed addition to our county history.

That part of the county of Somerset which lies *west* of the Parret, belonged to the district known to the ancient Britons as DYVNAINT. This the Romans called DUMNONIUM, adopting with some slight modification as their custom was, the names in use among the natives of the country. It requires very little philological skill to identify DYVNAINT with DUMNONIUM; and both with DEVON of the present day. That, however, which gives significance and meaning to the name must be sought for in the language of the ancient Britons; and nothing could be more descriptive of the district than the name it bears—DYVN-NAINT—"the country of the deep vallies."

Frequently among the Quantocks—indeed all over the county—we meet with a genuine British word, CWM, for a valley. At the foot or opening of one of the Coombes on the Quantocks, we find a striking British name in TRESCOMBE, which is composed of TRE-IS-CWM—"the dwelling beneath, or at the foot of the vale," and the hill at the *head* of another Cwm, is called Buncombe Hill, which is no other than the British BEN-CWM, the *vale head.*

The QUANTOCKS themselves have a very descriptive name, especially when they are regarded in respect to the physical characteristics which they present on their northern side;—GWANTOG—"abounding in openings." The great number, comparatively, of deep dells, almost amounting to ravines, which *open* among the Quantocks towards the Bristol Channel, and thus "divide" the range of hills, would naturally give rise to their ancient name. On one of the loftiest eminences in this range, stands the extensive British encampment sometimes called Danesborough, but by the peasants of the neighbourhood

known as Dousborough. This the ancient British inhabitants would have called DINAS;—a word which, standing by itself, means pre-eminently "*the* fortification" of the district; a distinction which Dousborough might well claim, alike from its situation and its extent. Dousborough and Danesborough I take to be a corruption of DINAS, or DUNS-borough; the latter part being a Saxon addition made by a people ignorant of the meaning of its original name. The encampment on Hamdon Hill I believe to have had originally the same name, and to have been simply DUN, "*the* fortified place" of that neighbourhood. When the hamlet underneath became of sufficient importance, in Saxon times, to require a name, the Saxon inhabitants called it HAM-DUN—the hamlet nigh to the DUN.

Westward of the Quantocks we have the same word DUN occurring in DUNSTER, which is no other, I conceive, than DUN-YSTRAD—"the fort in the vale." Ystrad, in Welsh, is applied to the flat or bottom, formed by the course of a river. The propriety of such a descriptive name as Dun-Ystrad, no one, I think, can doubt, who has stood upon the brow of Grabhurst Hill, and looked down upon Dunster Castle. CUNNEGAR tower surmounts another stronghold, standing between the castle and the sea. This would be appropriately called CYN-GAER—the "foremost" fortification—the GAER in advance.

Going on a little farther west, we come to LUCCOTT Hill, with the GREY-WOOD, literally (in Welsh) LLWYD-COED, skirting its base, and stretching up its sides. Through this wood flows a rapid, impetuous stream, truly British in character, and in name: the HORNER; CHWERN-DDWR; which, in the Celtic, denotes the "whirling" and "wrangling" with which its "waters"

rush towards the sea. And towering above, with its brow and sides bristling with fragments of rocks and stones, is DUNKERRY-BEACON, which, from these physical characteristics, obtained the name which it now retains—DUN-CERYG*—"the stony height." These are names selected, for illustration, after a mere cursory glance over the district. Others there doubtless are equally striking, and equally indicative of the tenacity with which the names given by the aboriginal Britons have clung to the localities where they made their homes.

Retracing our steps eastward, we pass by WILLITON (the Wœllas-town), which, with WILLS-NECK (Wœllas-neck) has, not without reason, been assigned to the Saxons, as names given by them to these localities while they were still occupied by the Welsh, or WŒLLAS, as the Saxons first called the Celtic race in Britain. We then come to the gradual opening or widening of the vale, south-west of the Quantocks, until it is lost in the wider plain of Taunton Dean;—just what the British would have called LLEDYAD, from the verb llediannu—"to grow wide." Here, I believe, we have the origin of Lydeard (given, in Domesday Book, and in an old map,† published A.D. 1610, as LEDIARD), standing, as it does, where the smaller vale gradually opens and *widens* into the broader expanse of Taunton Dean.

Following the course of the river TONE, which I find by Toulmin's History, is represented by Whittaker as a form of AVON (T'avon, hence Tone) we come to Taunton

* The C, in the Celtic dialects, has always the power of K.

† "SOMERSET-SHIRE Described and into HUNDREDS devided, with the plott of the famous and most wholsom waters and citie of the BATHE by I. S. Anno. 1610." In the Museum of the Society at Taunton.

—the TONE-TOWN—surrounded by a country beautiful and rich, herself not unworthy of the beautiful scenery with which she is surrounded. The connection of the name of this river with the Celtic "Avon," is very probable; and T'AVON may be the contraction of TAW-AVON, which literally describes the peculiarly "silent" course of the river. TAUNTON DEAN (well known not to have had its origin in any ecclesiastical division) may be either from the Anglo-Saxon DEN, "a valley;" which, in the form of DEAN, is still used in the district of Craven: or, more probably, is identical with the Celtic root DEN, which enters into the names of many localities associated with forests or woodland. Thus, we have the FOREST OF DEAN in Gloucestershire, known to the present day by the Welsh as Y DDENA; the FOREST OF ARDEN, in Warwickshire, formerly extending from the Severn to the Trent, but now confined to that part of the county of Warwick west of the Avon about Henley, called the WOODLAND; and the parish of ARDEN-VIL in Lanarkshire. Then, there is the great Forest of ARDENNE,—the "Arduenna Sylva" of Julius Cæsar*—which gives a name to a department of France, and formerly extended as far as the country of Liege, in the neighbourhood of which—another indication of Celtic occupation—there is a district very like our own Devon, known in the present day as Dinant, identical evidently in sound and signification with the Dyvnaint of Ancient Britain. The aspect of Taunton Dean, even now, from any of the neighbouring heights, fully justifies the appellation of DEN or DEAN in the sense of "woodland."

Leaving Taunton, and passing through HATCH (a Somerset provincialism, even in the present day, for GATE)

* Cæsar de Bello Gall. l. vi., c. 29, 31.

where there is every reason to believe was placed the old HATCH or GATE to the unenclosed forest; we have, stretching on our right, the Blagdon hills; on the very spine of which the practiced eye of the antiquary (in spite of the thick and rapid growth of the plantation) may yet recognize the deep foss of Castle Neroche—a fine encampment, well deserving of the attention it has lately received from one of our most experienced and successful antiquarians. NEROCHE is so Norman in its sound, that I long thought its meaning would be got at only through the French. Had it stood near or upon a rock, LE ROCHE would naturally occur as the probably original form of the name. There being no such physical characteristic; and, which is of equal importance, the name prevalent among the peasantry of the neighbourhood being CASTLE RACH, we are necessarily led to seek in some other source for its true meaning. Having been in the habit, on principle, of giving the preference to those forms of the names of places which are preserved by the peasantry of the neighbourhood, it was with no small pleasure I found this principle confirmed, by the reference to this place, in the "*Perambulations of the Royal Forests*," made by the command of Edward I. The part which applies to our subject opens as "Perambulatio forestæ de Nerachist, in Comitatu Somerset." In this there is reference made to a former Charter of Henry, the father of Edward, which relates—"De forresta videlicet:—quidam mons qui vocatur Castrum de Rachich."* Taking this as an approximation to the more ancient form of the name, I am disposed to regard it as derived from RHAG, or RHAC, which signifies in Welch, "that which is uppermost," as the spine of a quadruped: and Castell-RHAC would thus be the camp on

* See Phelps' History of Somerset, vol I, p. 45.

the SPINE of the hill; which is certainly descriptive of its appearance from all the lowlands around.*

I need not do more at present than merely refer, in passing, to Langport—the Llong-borth, the "port for vessels" of the ancient Britons,—as in a former paper I explained what I conceive to be its origin and its history. Leaving POLDON likewise—the MOEL-Y-DON† or VOEL-DON of the Britons—a name descriptive of its character, when it stood out as "elevated land" (MOEL) in the midst of the waves (DON); and STREET, which, of itself, is an undoubted indication of Roman occupancy, and of its position on a Roman high-way, STRATUM, we come to GLASTONBURY. This place is rich above all others in names, which clearly indicates the various points of interest from which it was regarded by successive generations, during the ancient British and the early Saxon periods. Thus we find it called, in very early times, YNYS-AVALLON —"the *island* of apple trees." This name was evidently given at the time when the present turf moors between the Poldon and Mendips were in the course of formation beneath the expanding waters of an estuary, or of an inland lake. That it was known by this name during the Roman period is evident from the latinized form, Avalonia, which occurs in some of the Itineraries. Its former position in respect to surrounding water or marsh-lands, is indicated by another name—YNYS-WYTRYN—"the island in the midst of bogs or marshes." Wytrin is a form of WY, the Celtic word for water, which enters so largely into the composition of the names of rivers and lakes in

* In the modern Castle-Rach, the *ch* is soft: in the Celtic Castell-Rhac, the *c* is hard. *Ch*ester from Castrum; *Ch*arter from Carta, are instances of a similar change of sound.

† There is a MOEL-Y-DON, in the present day, near the Menai Straits.

the kingdom. A third purely British name is ABER-GLASTON. Wherever ABER occurs, it indicates the *confluence* either of two rivers, or of a stream with a lake or the sea; the succeeding part of the word being either the name of the smaller river, or some characteristic feature in the locality. The confluence of the river BRUE with the lake or swampy grounds of that period could not have been far from the site of the present town. Hence ABER forms a part of the name; and GLAS-TON would either describe the river Brue flowing with clear "blue waves" into the meares: or more probably would apply to the "green sward" in the neighbourhood of the confluence. The words admit of being rendered either way. In Saxon times, the ABER was dropped from GLASTON, and BYRIG was added. Thus we have Llæſtingabýriġ of the Saxon Chronicle, and Glastonbury of the present day.

We must not leave Glastonbury without a visit to WEARY-ALL-hill, for here we have a curious and interesting example of the corruption of an old word, from the prevalent and very natural desire to call things by names which have a *meaning* to those who use them. The origin of the name, even in its present form, dates a long way back. Thus, in "A little monument to the once famous Abbey and Borough of Glastonbury," published A.D. 1722, the writer says, that "he was told by the Innkeeper, that St. Joseph of Arimathea and his Companions marched, from the place where they landed, near the town, to a hill, and there, being weary, rested themselves, which gave the hill the name of Weary-all-hill."* This incident is, no doubt, a comparatively modern addition to the older legend of St. Joseph of Arimathea, and was suggested by the old

* The History and Antiquities of Glastonbury, etc. by T. Hearne, M.A., mdccxxii.

name of Wyrrall, which the hill seems to have borne at an early period. In the general survey of the temporalities of this monastery, as given in Dugdale's *Monasticon*, we find, among others, "WYRRALL park, which conteyneth in circuite one myle and one quarter." This WYRRALL is evidently the WEARY-ALL-hill of the present day, and itself, I believe, a corruption of an ancient British name—YR ALLT—"the wood." We have a curious confirmation of this view in another entry of the Survey: "Within the Park of Wirrall, lx acres of fayre tymbre;" and likewise in the Charta or Epistle of St. Patrick, in which he describes himself and his "brother of Wells" as toiling to the summit of the hill through a "*dense wood*." "Post multum vero temporis, assumpto mecum *Wellia* confratre meo, per condensitatem silvæ, cum magna difficultate, conscendimus cacumen montis, qui eminet in eadem Insula." *

Another corruption of like character presents itself in the name of the site of an ancient earthwork known as BLACKER'S hill, overlooking Nettle-bridge Valley. It has been described by the Rev. W. Phelps as a British encampment "protecting the pass of the defile." I do not know the locality myself, but this description clearly corresponds with the Celtic BWLCH, literally "the pass of the defile;" and BLACKER becomes the Saxon corruption of a fine old British name—BWLCH-Y-GAER, the "pass of the defile below the camp."

In some cases the ancient British names have utterly

* The whole Epistle is given in the Appendix to Hearne's *Glastonbury*, p. 114. Its authenticity has been doubted. Indeed, the internal evidence alone is sufficient to prove it to have been a forgery, executed no doubt by one of the monks of Glastonbury. This, however, does not necessarily affect the value of its testimony in regard to the physical characteristics of the neighbourhood.

disappeared, being supplanted by those of more modern origin. Thus, in ancient Welch literature, the city of BRISTOL is known as CAER-ODOR-NANT—"the city of the rent valley"—a name which the appearance of St. Vincent's Rocks on each side of the Avon fully justifies. UXELA, likewise, the Latin form of the old British name by which the estuary of the Parret was called, and which occurs in the old geographers, has disappeared, and has left no representative in the language of the people. The term would seem to have been applied to the land-locked estuary covering the Bridgwater levels, and is evidently derived from the British WYSC-HELI, implying the free access to it of the "sea-water"—HELI.

AD UXELAM was a Roman station lying on the shore of this estuary. It has usually been supposed to have occupied the site of the present town of Bridgwater; but the extensive Roman remains found by Mr. Stradling about the Poldon Hills, would lead us rather to look for it on the other side of the river. And if we are justified in identifying with Ad Uxellam and Avallonia the Uxelludiano and Avallano which occur in the *Excerpta ex Ravennate Geographo*, as connected together—"recto tramite"—by a direct line of road, this view is greatly confirmed.

The PARRET is a modern form of the Pedpedan of the Saxon chronicles: and Pedredan is evidently a modification of PERYDDON, the name which was applied to the river by the ancient Britons. There is a peculiarity in this word Peryddon, deserving of notice. It has the *plural* termination. This may have arisen from its being applied not only to the river itself, but to the united waters of the Tone, the Ivel, and the Parret proper. It occurs in a Welsh poem of the seventh century,

by the Cambrian bard Golyddan, which relates to "the great armed confederacy of Britain," "Arymes Prydyn Vawr." Of this there are extracts, with a translation, in Thiery's *Norman Conquest.** In one place we read—

"In Aber-Peryddon, the deputies of a Saxon king
Even before there was a public stipulation, stirred up slaughter.
By arbitrary act, with violence, the deputies
Demanded and proceeded to collect a tribute.
The Cymri resolved they were not bound to pay:" etc.

The poem is mainly devoted to the utterance of the indignation of the Cymri at the wrong thus inflicted. This occurred at Aber-Peryddon; and if we take Peryddon to have corresponded to the ancient name of WYSC-HELI, the site of this great conference and conflict would not be far from PURITON, which is near to the *confluence* of the estuary with the Severn sea, and may possibly have been the ABER-PERYDDON of the Welsh bard. I find it in the same old map, before referred to, in the form of PERITON.

Passing by the Avon and the Ax, universally known as Celtic words, we come to the SEVERN and SEVERN SEA: the British name of which is deserving of notice from its connexion, indirectly, with the name which this county bears. What is now called the Bristol Channel bore the name of MOR ESYLLWG, and likewise MOR HAVREN. Havren is the Welsh form of Severn.†

In a very ancient notice of the "*Principal Territories of Britain*," given in the Iolo MSS., p. 86, we find the Mor Havren, with Dyvnaint and Cerniw, given as the boundaries of Gwlad-yr-hav, a district corresponding with that of East Somerset. This naturally leads to the conclusion that

* Bogue's edition vol 1. Appendix 1. † See Note, p. 89.

Gwlad-yr-Hav is a contraction of GWLAD-YR-HAVREN. The county of Somerset to the Welsh population of the principality, even now, is not known by any other name than Gwlad-yr-hav. But in Welsh this word Hav (which in Havren is doubtless identical with AV, the root of AVON, a river) likewise means SUMMER: and Gwlad-yr-hav, therefore, admits of being translated—either the "land on the shores of the Havren;" or, "the SUMMER-LAND." The early Saxons, who named the county, would seem to have chosen the more obvious but less correct translation, and hence the county bears the name of SOMERSET.

Camden, in his *Britannia*, abandons the commonly received derivation of "the Summer-land," assigning a reason which was sufficient even in his time, and must have had greater force during the period in which the name is supposed to have had its origin. His words are, "some thinke it was so called, for that the aire there, is so mild and summer-like: and in that sense the Welch Britans at this day terme it GLADERHAF, borrowing that name from our English tongue. And verily, howsoever in Summer-time it is a right summer-like country, yet surely, in winter it may worthily be called, a winterish region, so wet and weely, so miry and moorish it is, to the exceeding great trouble and encombrance of those that travell in it." Immediately after, the old antiquarian adds, that the name of the County, "without all question grew out of Somerton, a famous town in ancient times," etc. etc. The town of Somerton is, undoubtedly, very ancient; occurring early in the Saxon chronicles. At the same time, seeing that the feelings cherished at this early period, by the Cymri towards the Saxon invaders were not such as to induce them to "borrow a name from the English tongue;" and seeing, likewise, that Gwlad-yr-Hav, is

applicable to a country—gwlad—only; Somerton would seem more likely to have been itself derived from, rather than to have given origin to, the name of the county of Somerset.

These observations on the Topographical Etymology of Somerset I now lay before the Society with great diffidence. Most of the derivations, I believe, are safe and satisfactory; some may be open to objection. I have endeavoured to give not only the conclusion to which I have been led, but also the grounds on which they are founded. Such as they are, I now leave them, as a contribution towards a more complete classification of the names of places in the county, according to their origin.

Before I conclude, however, I would beg further to direct attention to the application of Philology to another department of the archæology of the county, which is deserving of notice—the dialects of Somersetshire.

The vernacular dialects of our rural districts are now, very properly, regarded as remains of the ancient language of the land, rather than as vulgarisms. The only Glossary of Somerset that has appeared in print, is that by Mr. James Jennings, published in 1825. In the Observations etc. prefixed, he states that his glossary relates especially to the districts *east* of the river Parret, "the pronunciation and many of the words in the district *west* of that river, being very different indeed, so as to designate strongly the people that use them." This statement I have more than once heard confirmed by our late esteemed Secretary, Mr. W. Baker, who, if his life had been spared, might have added his accurate observations on this subject to his many other valuable contributions to the Archæology and Natural History of the county. It is very desirable that

those who have opportunity should take note of these peculiarities; and if they would forward their observations to the Secretaries of the Society, even though it be by one or two words at a time, a sufficient number of characteristic words may be got together, to lead to a safe generalization, and possibly to explain the ethnological grounds of the difference of dialect prevailing on either side of the river Parret. What is done in this way, had need to be done quickly; for the fine old Saxon words which our forefathers used, and which enrich, while from our ignorance they sometimes obscure, our early literature, are fast disappearing before the shriek of the railway whistle, and its accompanying civilization and progress.

NOTE.—The Severn occurs in the *Irish version of the Historia Britonum of Nennius*, (published by the Irish Archæological Society. A.D. 1848.) in the form of Sabɹaiṅḃ, Sabraind. Notwithstanding that one of the learned editors, the Hon. A. Herbert, in a note p. 30, regards "the real etymology of Sabrina, Celticè Havren, to be, no doubt, from *hav*, (Irish ɹaṁ or ɹaṁɹa) summer: part of the adjoining country being called Gwlad-yr-Hav, or Land of the Summer," I would still submit that the more probable derivation of Havren is from AV, the root of Avon, "a river." How the idea of "summer" could become associated with the Channel, it is difficult to conceive; and it is evident from the form of the word Gwlad-yr-hav, that the county took its name from the sea, and not the sea from the county.

It may not be altogether out of place here, to insert a curious and interesting notice of the phenomenon, usually

called the Boar, which occurs among the "Wonders of Britain" in the *Irish version of Nennius*, and likewise in the original Latin text, as given in the *Monumenta Hist. Brit.* p. 78, cap. lxxii :—"Aliud miraculum est Duorighabren, id est, duo reges Sabrinæ. Quando inundatur mare ad sissam in ostium Sabrinæ, duo cumuli spumarum congregantur separatim, et bellum faciunt inter se in modum arietum : et procedit unusquisque ad alterum, et collidunt se ad invicem. Et iterum secedet alter ab altero, et iterum procedunt ex uno cumulo super omnem faciem maris. In unaquaque sissa hoc faciunt ab initio mundi usque ad hodiurnum diem." "Another wonder is Duorighabren, that is, The two kings of Severn. When the sea is poured into the mouth of the Severn to a full head of water, two heaps of surf are collected on either hand, and make war against each other like rams: and each goes towards the other, and they dash against each other, and separate again, and then flow from the one heap over the surface of the sea. This they do at every full head of water, from the begining of the world to the present day."

In the *Anglia Rediviva*, or History of the Motives, Actions, etc., of the Army under the Conduct of Sir Thomas Fairfax, by Joshua Sprigge, M.A. (1647), this phenomenon is called by another name—the Eager ; and General Cromwell is described, during the siege of Bridgwater, as narrowly escaping "a sudden surprisal of the tide called the Eager," while going over the river to view the posts on the other side.

Fig. 1.

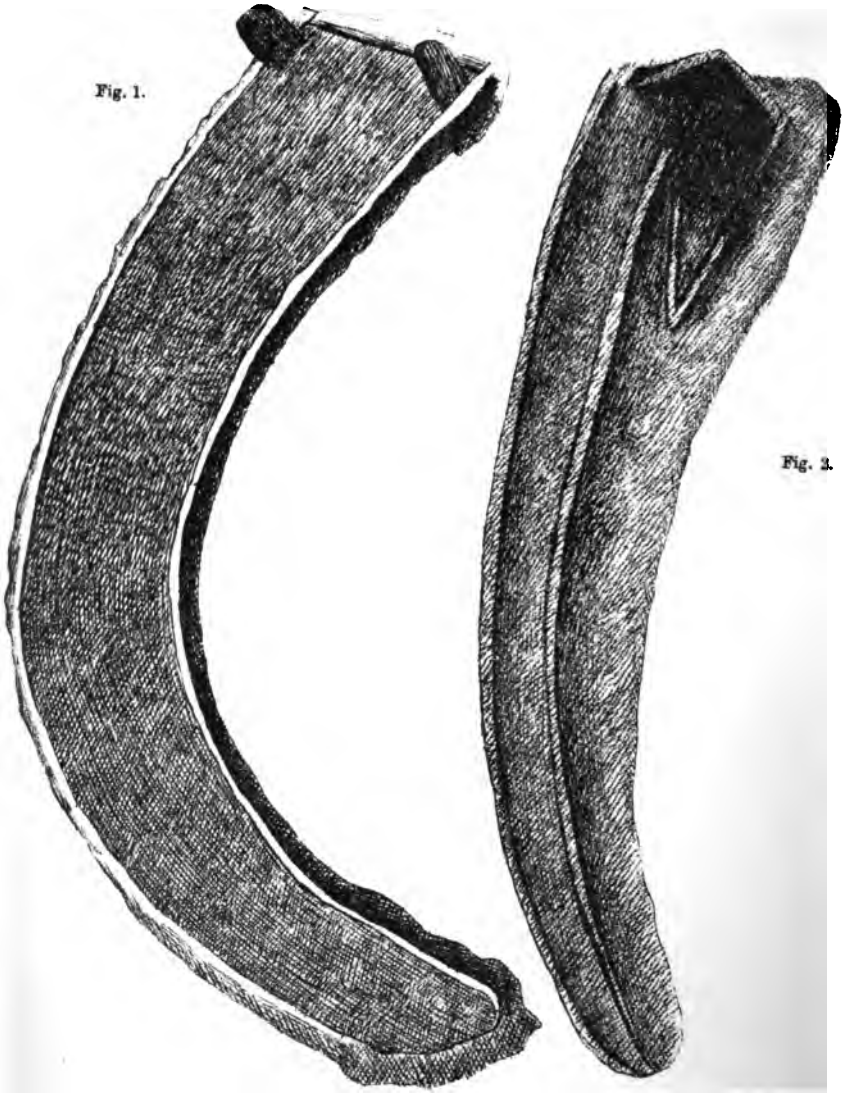


Fig. 2.

Antiquities found in the Turbaries.

A Young Turf-bearer's find in the Turbaries.

BY MR. W. STRADLING.

MANY years are now passed, since a young friend of mine, by the name of Murch, entered his father's turbary,* with the determination of giving his assistance to the laborers, as turf-bearer,—a most arduous undertaking for one so young, and which I will endeavour to describe, as the process of preparing the peat, for fuel, is curious. A pit, ten feet square, is commenced by the delver, with the turf scythe, with which he removes the top spine, as useless; he then proceeds to cut his brocks, which he does with the greatest accuracy: places them round the mouth of the pit, when the bearer, with the turf fork, lifts them into a barrow, and wheels them to the drying-place, where, with a scythe, he splits each brock into three. They then remain on the ground, until sufficiently dry to be placed into ruckles, or, the smallest kind of drying heaps. Those,

* Near Edington Burtle.

in time, are formed into open worked tunegars, as they are termed; and lastly, they are ricked, in order to be carted to the different markets. A curious phenomenon, sometimes, occurs in the turbaries. The delver, at the depth of eight, nine, and sometimes even ten feet, and when within a foot or two of the clay, on which the peat rests, is suddenly lifted to the mouth of the pit, and steps off without difficulty or danger. A very old and experienced workman informed me "he had had several wind and water rides in his time, and that when wind caused the platform to rise, it went steadily up, and at the top he only had to pass his scythe through the mass, when the wind passed off, with a sound much like the drone of the bagpipe, and he gradually descended to the bottom, and resumed his work. When water was the cause, the ascent was more rapid, attended by a violent rocking motion, and the pit became useless."

Our young bearer felt much fatigued at the completion of what was his first and last day's work of that description; he was, however, well repaid; for whilst speaking to the delver, he espied in one corner at the bottom of the pit, what he imagined to be a log of black wood, and ordered it to be carefully removed. To his great delight, it proved to be a small square box, scooped in rather an oval shape within, and containing what I consider to be the most curious collection of British antiquities ever discovered in the turbaries of Somerset. The cist was unfortunately made of maple, and soon fell to dust; had it been of oak, or yew, it would have remained an interesting relic for ages yet to come. I will now endeavour to describe its contents:

A knife unfinished, as it came from the mould, with the rough edge on. Fig. 1:

One which had been much used:

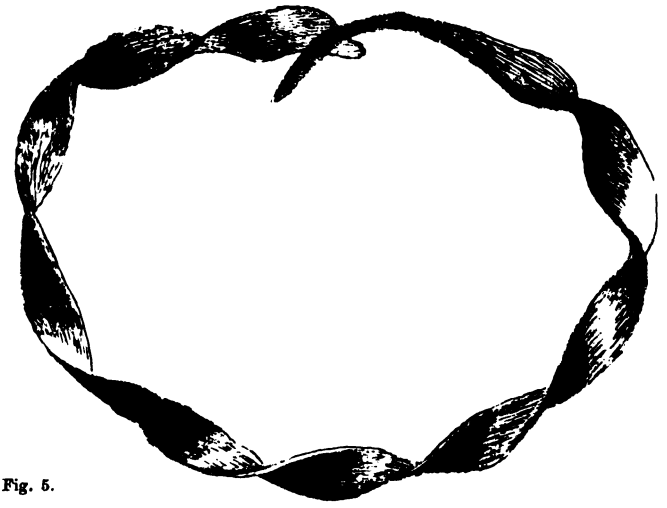


Fig. 5.

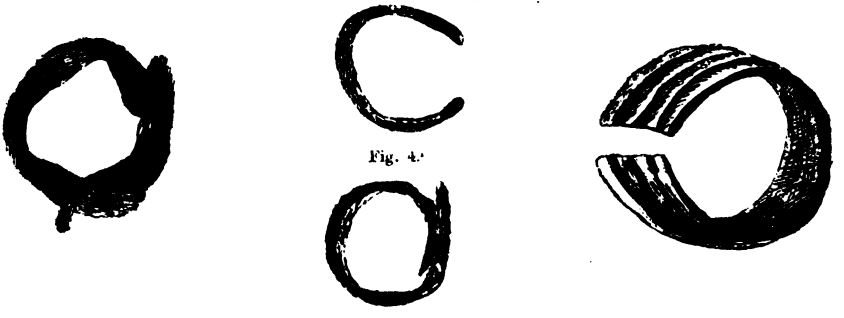
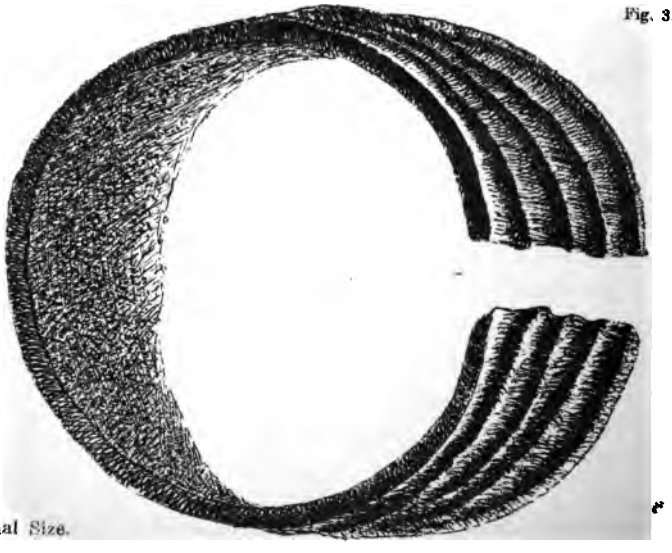


Fig. 4.

Fig. 3.



Original Size.

Antiquities found in the Turbaries.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

Antiquities found in the Turbaries.

A most beautiful specimen of nearly the same pattern. Fig. 2 :

Another not so perfect :

An armlet, with a ring for the finger to match. Fig. 3 :

Two rings for the first or second joint of a lady's finger. Fig. 4 :

An armlet, of a curious twisted pattern, with a finger ring to match. Fig. 5 :

A torque, evidently, from its lightness, intended for the neck of a female. Fig. 6 :

Part of a ring, much rubbed, and probably broken in order to ascertain of what metal the whole collection was made; which is of British brass.

Four palstaves, or celts, without sockets; three having loops for thongs, the other without; all of different patterns.

I now come to what I consider to be the most interesting of the whole collection—Fig. 7; it is of the same pattern as the Jogh-Draoch, or chain-ring of divination, discovered in Ireland, and which, Meyrick says, was worn on the third finger of the left hand, by the Arch-druid :—the finger still held the most sacred, and on which is placed the wedding-ring.

With all due deference to my Archæological friends, I will now risk my opinion as to those precious and truly interesting antiques. We know that from the number of oaks, yews, and other kinds of trees, which from time to time have been discovered in our once British lake, that forests were on its borders; in them, perhaps, the horrid rites of Druidism were performed. Might not, then, a British priestess, at a very early date, have lost this *then* most valuable cist from her canoe. The knives are

precisely of the same pattern as those of gold found in Ireland, aud which were supposed to have been used for sacrificing the victims in those barbarous days. The torque, armlets, and rings, convince us that she was one of high rank, and the Jogh-Draoch, I conceive, gave the possessor the order of priesthood.

Some of my Archæological friends will exclaim—If this be your theory, how do you account for a priestess having in her possession the four palstaves? My reply would be, might they not have been trophies, taken from the victims she had sacrificed? Others, I am aware, do not believe that any human sacrifices were ever made in Britain; but if we give up this chief, though inhuman rite, then farewell to Druidism, which from henceforth must be considered altogether fabulous.

On the Geology of the Quantocks.

BY MR. J. H. PAYNE.

THE Quantock Hills form part of the extensive series of Schistose Rocks, so well known as occupying a very extended area in the counties of Devon and Cornwall, as well the extreme north-west of the county of Somerset, separated, however, from the main body of these rocks by a fertile valley. The range is about twelve miles long, by four to six miles broad, extending in a direction from north-west to south-east. The water-shed it is very difficult rightly to determine, there being no river or stream of any size. Each little valley seems to claim for itself the right to drain its own domain. We may describe it, however, as tending principally southward. Three principal heights may be noted, viz., Will's-neck, 1,270 feet; Cothelstone, 1,066 feet; and Douseboro or Danesborough, 1,022 feet, above low water mark. The Rev. David Williams, in a paper read before the British Association,* divided the whole of these rocks of the West of England

* I believe in 1836, but it does not appear in their transactions.

into a group of ten divisions, the Quantocks belonging to the lowest five of the series, and the Cannington limestone being placed the very lowest in the scale. It is now, however, ascertained, that, as regards Cannington, Mr. Williams was in error; and without attempting at present to unriddle the "puzzle" as my late friend Mr. Baker called it, yet the discovery of shells in this limestone is sufficient to upset previous theories as far as I am acquainted with them, and to leave a fair field of geological research still open there to the physical geologist. Neither, indeed, would I pin my faith to much of Mr. Williams's generalizations. Murchison, De la Beche, Phillips, and not forgetting Professor Sedgwick, have combined to topple down his "synopsistic" column, and at present, I think, we must throw his groupings aside altogether. A very prominent feature as are the Quantock Hills in our county, the stranger on a nearer acquaintance will not be disappointed, for few districts offer greater attractions to the lovers of nature, whether as regards varied scenery, or the magnificent prospects from their summits. Seen from a distance, they present, with the exceptions of the heights I have mentioned, a gently undulating outline, and from the south-eastern extremity are divided into distant ridges, spread out in the form of a fan, having one extremity at North Petherton, and the other at West Monkton, with a gradual slope to the alluvial lands below. On the eastern side, lateral branches spread out from the main range, thus forming the beautiful valleys called Coombes: on the western side the descent is much more rapid. Of themselves, from the general cultivation, few opportunities are offered for satisfactory sections, but we may compare the quarry sections with those presented by the cliffs on the shore of the sister district, and by these means arrive at

our conclusions. These rocks being sedimentary, the range owes its present elevation to igneous action in ages long gone by, probably before the disturbance of the Somerset coal field, and which we now know was before the deposition of the lias. In their present form, then, we may consider them as amongst our very oldest monuments of the power of the Almighty Worker, with whom a thousand years are but as one day.

The QUANTOCK HILLS may be divided according to their geological character into three parts :—First, the northern part, being of the same class as the Linton sandstones, conglomerates, &c. (No. 3 in Rev. Mr. Williams' grouping), comprising rocks which may be described, generally, as coarse calcareous slates, gritty, gravelly, with great beds of sand-stones and shales. These are placed erroneously by Mr. W.; for they are the oldest rocks of the Quantocks.* Secondly, that portion occupying the middle and largest part of the range, comprising rocks next in age, which may be termed the Ilfracombe beds ; being of a finely arenaceous slaty character, very fossiliferous at Buncombe Hill, with compact and shaley limestone bed, of a sub-crystalline texture. And Thirdly, the remaining part, containing the quartzoze schists, or slates, of Mr. Williams' group No. 2, but which are now placed above his group No. 5, in accordance with the opinion of the high authorities who have since examined them.

I shall confine myself now to facts derived from observation, and put the conclusions aside for the present. Commencing our survey then at St. Audries and West Quantocks-head, we find reddish gritty sandstone beds, and red slaty shales between, the dip being about 22 deg. N.N.W.

* This is very satisfactorily proved in Mr. David Sharpe's paper, published in the Transactions of the Geological Society, February, 1853.

In another quarry of much the same character on the road leading to Bicknoller, south of St. Audries, the *anticlinal* of these beds has been discovered within a few days by Mr. J. D. Pring, of Taunton, and we are now enabled to complete a section of the whole range, the publication of which, in the present volume, has been superintended by that gentleman, to whom I am also indebted for other valuable information.

The sandstones in this quarry are of a reddish grey colour, and very hard. The two dips may be clearly observed, viz., the northern at an angle of 20 deg. north-west, and the southern at about 10 deg. south-east. North of Doddington, the sandstones are of a purer gray colour, having a mixture of red only at certain points. Mr. Pring notes the discovery of the cast of a Terebratula in the hard *grey sandstone* of this part, and having on the same specimen traces of the fine lined corals of the Fenestella family, and Encrinital catss. Save this one solitary specimen, the whole of this part has proved to be non-fossiliferous, and further evidence is certainly required before we can pronounce it to be otherwise. By Doddington we enter on the middle part. The beds now vary from those we have been examining by being more flag-like with dove and greenish coloured slates between. On the north-east of Crowcombe, near Fire Beacon, we find, in a quarry, beds composed of greenish and purple tinged sandstones, much cleaved, and the dip imperfect and southerly. It has a talcose appearance, and bears no trace of fossil remains. Clay slate lies between these beds, and which looks very much like *soapstone*, though it is not in the least *steatitic*, but contains a large proportion of silica and alumina, and a small trace of magnesia. Passing on to the northern escarpment of Will's-neck hill, is a hard, light, greenish

looking slate, opening with purple stains, and also some red purplish sandstones. The former have a chloritic appearance, though chlorite is not found, on analysis, to be present. It is of an extremely indurated nature, and contains a large proportion of siliceous matter, the dip about 22 deg. too South and thick bedded. Along the newly-cut road from Will's-neck to Ely Green are red and grey sandstones, but from the shallowness of the cutting no perfect dip could be observed. A mile or more west of Cockercombe, we find the slates laminated, and assuming a rich claret colour, but, to all appearance, without the substrata of sandstone, or of any organic remains. The slates of Asholt, Lower Asholt, Buncombe Hill, and Cothelstone, occupying a cross line south-east to south-west, all appear of the same character, viz., laminated, with slightly glossy separations, and of a reddish grey colour. At Asholt the dip is south-east, about 30 deg.; in the Western part this variety appears to be non-fossiliferous, but at Buncombe Hill and in the direction of Asholt fossil remains are to be found in abundance, as will presently appear.

Beyond Buncombe Hill the banks by the roadside shew the red sandstone beds, without a trace of any organic remains. At Plainsfield, Mr. Williams met with brachiopoda and gasteropoda, and he further remarks that the Old Red here supplied him with a few fossils, *as well as at Will's-neck.* Mr. Pring says, "I have searched very carefully at two different times, and I failed to discover anything save a doubtful-looking pebble stone, with an apparent cast, and another with a faint trace of an Encrinite, and may not Mr. Williams' Will's-neck fossils be in the debris stones instead of in the rock?" I leave the question for future decision; I think, however, it is worth careful attention, and to those who may be inclined to become explorers I would

say a word as to the extreme care necessary in determining what is and what is not a true *cast* even, of a Devonian fossil. My late most valued friend Mr. Baker shewed me several supposed casts of these fossils, collected by himself, but on their being submitted to the inspection of the Geological authorities of London, they were pronounced nothing of the kind. At Cockercombe we light upon a different variety of slate to any we have yet noticed, described by Mr. Williams as a "vivid pea-green crystalline slate," the colour being due to Manganese; it is, however, a true clay slate.

Returning to Cothelstone below the hill, or rather, on its slope in the park, we find the slate to be of the greenish blue variety, containing occasional casts of encrinites. Further east, in a quarry by the road-side, we observe a sage-colour clay slate, having a steatitic appearance, and which has been analysed by Mr. Draper, of Taunton, with the following result, viz.:—

Silica.....	74
Alumina, ...	18·5
Lime.....	6·0
Magnesia	1·0
	99·5

The odd decimal 5 he describes as containing iron.

In the sandstone of this quarry may be found small encrinital impressions; the dip of the strata is about 20 deg. southerly. At Buncombe Hill, near the four cross roads, eastward, the slate varies in colour from slight olive to purplish, and contains abundance of fossil shells, the most abundant being atrypa with orthides and spirifera. A few encrinital casts also occur, and the coral Fenestella. The slate here is finely laminated: dip southerly, 30 to 35 deg.

I yesterday visited this little quarry, and I was perfectly astonished at the great abundance of fossil remains to be found there. Though I was only there some ten minutes, yet I collected nearly 1 cwt. of specimens. They require the greatest care in extracting and handling, being exceedingly friable, and appear embedded in a ferruginous, clayish powder. Mr. Draper made a hasty analysis, with a result as follows, viz.:—

Silica	70
Alumina and Oxide of Iron	27·5
Magnesia and a little Lime	2·75
	100·25

In a lane westward of Lydeard Cross, on the road to Broomfield, we may observe ferruginous-like and soft yellow sandstones, with an abundance of beautifully-formed disks and casts of small encrinites. In a specimen 4½ inches by 2, there are 1,800 appearing on one side of the specimen only. The slate also of this neighbourhood contains impressions of encrinites, but fewer than in the sandstone. To the south-east of Enmore we get a flesh-colour sandstone appearing, the dip of the slate being south-east by 22½ deg., and no trace of fossils. At Boomer and from the north of North Petherton, towards Goathurst, the colour changes to almost a greyish purple hue, and the sandstone becomes more siliceous: dip 15 deg. north-east, without a trace of fossil remains. We pass now to the southern part where we have the quartzoze schists or slates. At Edgborough or Adsborough, we find a siliceous, argillaceous slate, slightly tinged with green, with large veins of quartz intersecting, at an angle of about 60 deg. south, the slates dipping about 45 deg. south. The cutting at Green Dragon Hill offers an excellent view; the slate is more finely

argillaceous than at Edgborough or Adsborough, and the colour more of a purple hue. Passing round by Durston, at full a quarter of a mile from the extreme south-east end of the Quantock range, Mr. Pring has discovered a small bed of argillaceous slate and sandstone of a reddish colour, and which he supposes to occupy an area of about 20 acres, and which is entirely omitted in the Ordnance Geological Map. Further north to West Monkton we find a similar rock to that at Thurloxton, but containing perhaps more gritty, hard, sandstone beds. Exposed in the road to Cheddon Fitzpaine, we observe a remarkable change to a hard siliceous slate of an olive green colour, and gradually passing at Hestercombe to the whet-stone grit, and in the public road west of Hestercombe, dipping at the high angle of 70 deg. or thereabouts. Near this spot we meet with the celebrated granite, or rather syenite dyke, discovered by Mr. Horner in 1814, the slates becoming more close and hard as we gradually approach it, the effect of igneous action. Mr. Horner thus describes his most interesting discovery :—" In passing through the village just named (Cheddon), I observed in the street a small block of stone, differing in appearance from any I had found previously, and, upon examination, I found it to be granite, a rock I had searched for before without success, and, indeed, this is the only place where I saw an unstratified rock in the whole district, the porphyry and green stone which accompany this formation in Devonshire being wholly wanting here. On enquiry, I found that this granite, called by the country people 'pottle-stone,' came from an old quarry, not far distant, in the grounds of Hestercombe, belonging to Mr. Warre. My informant brought out of his house a whetstone, which he said came from another quarry close by the pottle-stone. It was a greenish com-

pact stone, very like some horn stones, or some of those close-grained siliceo-argillaceous compounds, which it is very difficult to name." On going to the quarry, Mr. Horner found it almost overgrown with brushwood, and he goes on to say that he there found it *in situ*; it is small grained, and consists of dull flesh-coloured feldspar, with green mica, and a small quantity of quartz.

Through the kindness of Miss Warre, I examined this quarry yesterday, and found the junction of the slate with the granite. I took sections and specimens, but I have not had sufficient time to give full attention to the matter so as to lay the result before you to-day. Near the junction, the slates are much disturbed and broken, and there may be observed an indistinct blending, as it were, of the slate and granite. North and south the slate assumes a felspathic appearance, and fragments of it seem united by a granitic cement. Extending our examination towards Broomfield, and a little to the south, we get a laminated slate of a deep grey colour, and by the old and now abandoned Broomfield copper mine, true killas may be observed. The slates at the mouth of the adit dip almost perpendicularly, with a tendency south, however. Here we may observe fine white quartz, with sulphuret of copper. Near Old mill* by Broomfield, we get a gritty, argillaceous flagstone of a purplish hue. The beds dip about 30 deg. south, and the quarry offers an admirable section, being nearly 30 feet in height. Returning by way of Kingston, we find in the lane leading to Tarr farm a purplish slate, occasionally verging to green in colour; and we may observe here a most remarkable example of angular contortion of the strata, the dip being upwards of 70 deg. south, and covered by horizontal beds of red, argil-

* See Ordnance Map.

laceous sandstone conglomerate. In this southern district we note a total absence of all organic remains. The whole of this series of rocks owe their origin to sedimentary deposits: those, then, who are acquainted with the present formation of coral reefs in the Pacific ocean, will not be surprised at the limestone beds we meet with in the Quantocks, for we may describe the whole Quantock range as the bed of an ancient ocean, and the spots of limestone as being the coral reefs of that ancient sea, and the lasting monuments of the labours of those wonderful little zoophytic creatures, whose remains are plentiful in these spots, for many of these beds yield beautiful corals. We may remark that invariably we find the beds of coral limestones on the slope of the hill. I have met with *favosites reticulata* in the reddish limestone of Adscombe, Over-Stowey, and Doddington; it is also found in the very dark indigo colored beds, as well as *acervularia goldfussi*, named by M. Milne Edwards, near the old mine at Doddington, and *alveolites suborbicularis* in the limestone beds of the same neighbourhood. The *favosites polymorpha* is a very prevailing coral at Over-Stowey, Asholt, and Doddington, as well as in the darker coloured beds of Blackhill and Higher Heathcombe. About one mile east of Buncombe Hill, Mr. Pring has discovered a small bed of limestone, altogether omitted from the Ordnance map, and which I have not yet seen. Specimens of *favosites polymorpha* were secured there, and its general character is much like the Cothelstone bed; only this latter has failed, as yet, to yield any organic remains. Encrinital impressions are common in the shales of all the beds. Generally the upper beds are of a dark indigo-coloured variety, then becoming, through various shades, a deep red. Near Ely Green *favosites* appear, but no encrinital remains. At Over-

Stowey we find the red limestone much used for burning into lime. The black-hill Quarry affords the darkest of these limestones, and is rich in remains. I shall have much pleasure in presenting a slab from a large block that I have, to range with other specimens of these limestones of the Quantocks which are already in your museum; at Asholt and Merridge the colour is of a purple hue. The limestone bed of Cannington Park is of a very different appearance to any we observe in the Quantocks, and I cannot consider it as being analagous; indeed, I have very little doubt in my own mind, that we shall succeed in placing it as a true mountain limestone, and having geological reference to the Mendip range, rather than to the Quantocks. Full four years since, I broached this subject to Mr. Baker, but his opinion, and that of those who had gone before him, was so contrary, that I gave it up for the time. It is satisfactory to me, however, that my discovery of shells there, now three years since, sufficed, at least, to shake the long formed opinion of our most excellent friend, and for him to record, at any rate, that we were not to rely upon previous theories respecting it. Holwell Cavern I have omitted mentioning, as Mr. Crosse's admirable paper may be referred to, being published in our Transactions. It would be wrong hastily to try to give you any general deductions from the facts I have stated; I consider it much better to leave doing so until our knowledge of the district is more extensive and matured. One thing, however, I am satisfied of, viz., that the Quantocks are true *Devonian* rocks, and that the unmeaning and most unsatisfactory word "*Grauwacke*" should be given up as applying to them.

Before I close, I would refer to an attempt we are making, to illustrate the geology of our county, by a collection

of all the various rocks to be found in it, and I trust that each of us, as far as his power goes, shall assist in this collection. It is astonishing what may be done, even by those who know but very little of geology. Care should be taken, however, to label each specimen as found, with a description of *where* and *in what position*.

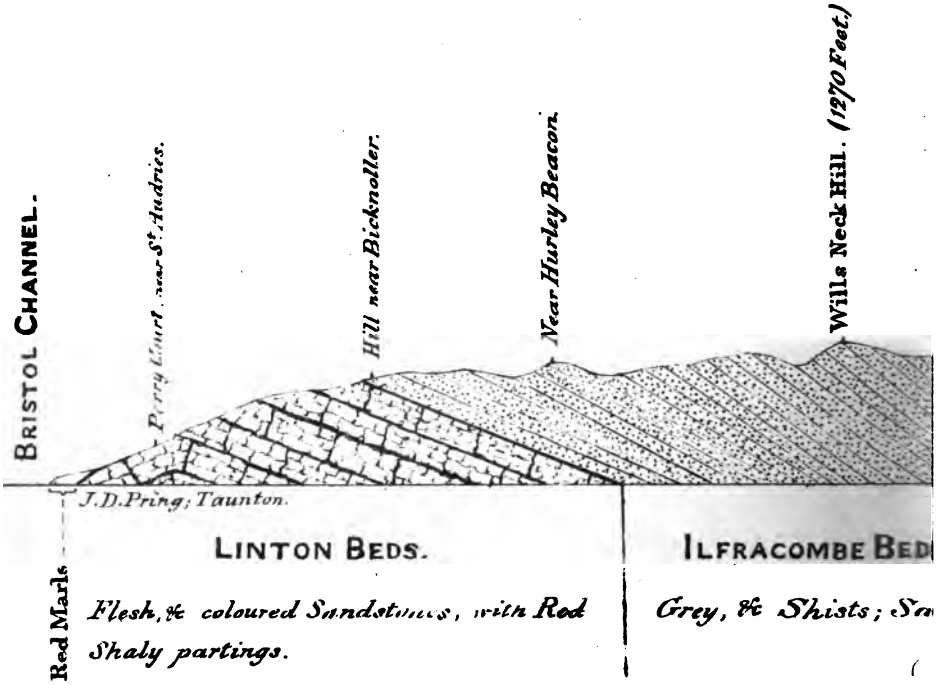
PHYSICAL GEOLOGY is by no means the least interesting division of our science, and though generally skipped over as the "hard name" part of the story, yet it is the most *useful* branch of the subject. Conscious as I am of the many errors of omission, yet, I shall be satisfied, if the present paper be the means of inducing others to give their attention to this romantic and beautiful part of our county, for—

"Nature never did betray
"The heart that lov'd her."

GEOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE QUA

(As divided by J.

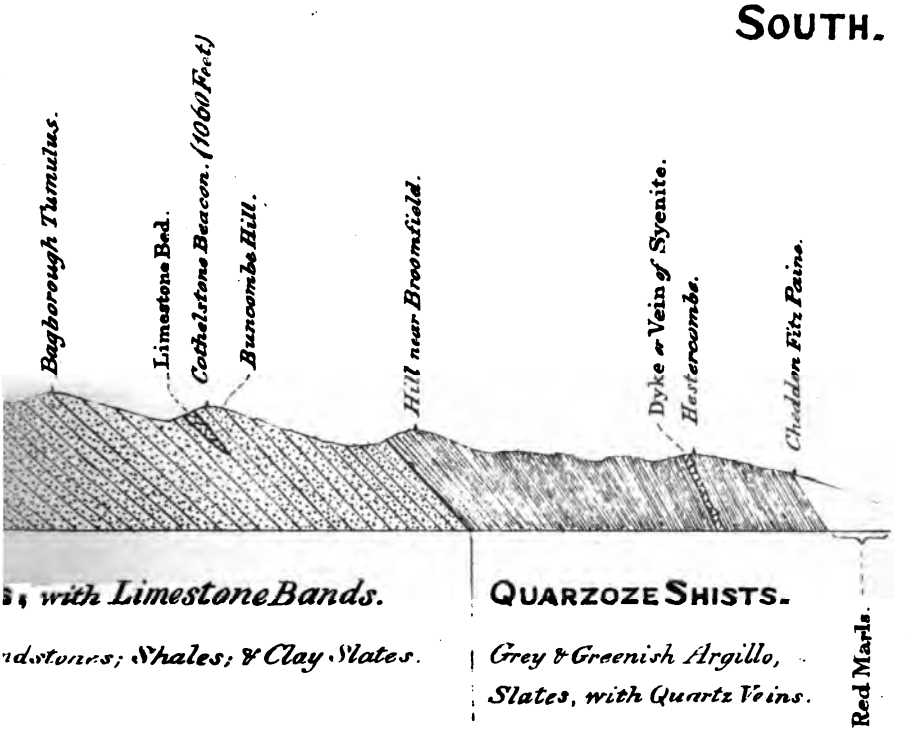
NORTH.



Horizontal Scale, 1½ Mile to an Inch.

ıNTOCK HILLS, SOMERSET.

D. Pring.)



Vertical Scale, 1800 Feet to an Inch.

On New Brachiopoda, from the Inferior Oolite of Dundry, &c.

BY MR. CHARLES MOORE, F.G.S.

WHEN a geologist removes from a district where he has been occupied in working out its ancient fauna, and where its various localities are associated with the discovery of many interesting organic remains, to one comparatively new to him, his feelings of regret may be softened by the hope, that in the wide field of geological observation in which he may happen to be placed, something may still be left for him to accomplish. Feelings akin to these were experienced by myself, in removing from the rich geological locality of Ilminster, to take up my residence in Bath, in former years successively the residence of Walcot, and William Smith—to the latter of whom we are indebted for the basis on which our knowledge of stratification now rests—of Lonsdale and others, through whose united labours its neighbourhood has obtained considerable distinction. Close application to the arrangement of my collection, which is intended to form a free museum for the city, has as yet prevented my becoming familiar with its geological details. I have therefore to hope from future examination it will fully merit the reputation which has been accorded to it.

The local newspapers having lately contained a statement that valuable beds of stone, equalling, according to the account, the oolite of Caen, in Normandy, had been found at Dundry, near Bristol, and knowing that it had long deservedly held a high position as a rich geological locality, I felt anxious to pay it a visit. I the more desired this, as I had seen, when examining the interesting collection at the Bristol Institution, specimens whose specific forms were familiar to me, labelled as from the inferior oolite of Dundry, but which I had previously believed to be characteristic of the middle lias. These beds have, until lately, been confounded with the inferior oolite, but are situated between the latter formation and the lower lias, and I therefore hoped on the escarpment of the hill leading up to Dundry, I should find some sections, shewing the beds intervening between the lower lias and the Dundry oolite, which would be the position of my old familiar beds at Ilminster, from whence these specimens might have come ; but after a careful examination no trace of them could be found. It is more than probable the specimens to which I refer were from the middle lias of some other locality, associated by mistake with those of the inferior oolite.

In proceeding from Bristol to Dundry, the new red sandstone is first passed, a good section of which may be observed at Bedminster, in a deep cutting of the Great Western Railway. On the side of the road ascending to Bedminster Down, a junction is seen of the marls of the new red sandstone with the clays of the lower lias, and in a quarry higher up the road appear the lowest beds of the lias, known as the white lias. In this section occurs a stratum called Cotham marble or landscape stone. From this point until the base of Dundry hill is reached, sections

are seen in several other quarries, and occasionally in cuttings by the road side, all still belonging to the lower lias. In ascending the escarpment of the hill, the beds next in succession should have been the middle lias—then the upper lias, and next in order the Dundry beds of inferior oolite.

The summit of the hill, on which Dundry stands, 700 feet above the level of the sea being reached, a magnificent prospect opens to the view, rich and varied as any lover of nature could desire. Beneath lies the city of Bristol, and the eye can penetrate far beyond into Gloucestershire, until intercepted by hills contemporary in age with those of Dundry, whilst on the other hand the land of the Silures, from whence we derive so much of our mineral wealth, opens to the view beyond the expanse of the Severn.

The church of Dundry, dedicated to Michael the Archangel, is well known. Standing on the brow of the hill with its lofty and beautiful tower, it presents an object which may be seen to a great distance, and assists the mariner in his navigation of the channel. Collinson, writing in 1791, remarks that "the western summit of the hill is a most bleak, dreary and solitary situation, whereon nature has been very sparing with her gifts, and the hand of art never exerted itself, but in hewing out immense quarries in days of yore, and erecting one poor forsaken building for the purpose of a beacon house."

It is on the western side of the hill the principal quarries are found. They have lately passed into new hands, and the present proprietor is working the beds extensively. They are of considerable thickness, and yield a very compact, fine grained, durable freestone. It appears to me remarkable that the value of such beds of oolite within five miles of a city like Bristol, with ample means for its con-

veyance to a distance, should until lately have been lost sight of, and that, for a long period the best beds in these quarries should not have been worked. Formerly their value must have been appreciated, as is evidenced by the shafts and excavations everywhere apparent. No better illustration of the durability of the stone they yield can be presented than in the churches of Dundry and Redcliffe, Bristol, which were built with stone from this locality. The beds of oolite at Dundry are about fifty feet in thickness, and in descending order would show, 1st—raggy beds which are removed to obtain the best stone for building. 2nd,—beds of freestone for which the quarries are now worked 12 feet in thickness. These are not rich in organic remains. 3rd,—Rubbly beds of stone with intervening patches of sand and sandy clay overlying No. 4, the lowest or ammonite bed, for which this locality has so long been celebrated. It is from this bed all the organic remains have hitherto been obtained. Knowing that it had yielded nearly two hundred specific forms, I looked forward to my visit to Dundry with pleasurable anticipation. It happened however, that the ammonite bed had been of late but little worked, and as it underlies those of most value it is not so likely to be reached for the future. During the day I obtained but two or three species of Terebratula and Rhynconella, a Lima, and a few corals, from a locality undoubtedly rich, so that I did not realize the expectations with which I set out upon my excursion.

On returning from Dundry to Bristol, on the north side of the hill, above the village of Bishport, are several small quarries by the roadside, the upper beds of which are composed of the rubbly stone mentioned above in section 3.

The one nearest Bishport shows signs of much disturbance and has a considerable dip to the north. In this

section may be traced thin bands of sandy clay, immediately overlying several compact beds of stone, (probably the ammonite bed,) for which the quarry was opened. Before leaving I collected some of these sands and clays to examine at my leisure. The result of my first examination convinced me that they contained organic remains hitherto unknown, and the series of Brachiopoda I have succeeded in making from them are of no little interest. Great labour and perseverance are needed in the discovery of these little specimens, the completion of the series now noticed, with some others intended for a future paper, having required six visits to Dundry and an examination of upwards of two cwt. of sand under the lens, occupying me almost daily for several months.

DESCRIPTION OF NEW BRACHIOPODA.

Family—TEREBRATULIDÆ.

Genus—ZELLANIA, *Moore*.—1854.

Type—ZEL. DAVIDSONII, *Moore*, Plate 1, fig. 1—3.

Shell minute; unattached; foramen large and rounded, encroaching on both valves, or triangular; valves depressed, convex, dorsal valve usually most so; external surface rugose, shewing slight tendency to striation, at others having concentric lines of growth, which are more defined on the ventral than on the dorsal valve; valves articulate. Interior of dorsal valve granulated or smooth, shewing flattened granulated or smooth margin, surrounded by an elevated ridge, which commencing under the dental sockets passes to the front of the shell, where it is partially obliterated, and is there united by a central septum.

Obs. Since reading my paper at the Taunton Meeting, I have been enabled to determine more clearly the internal

characters of this genus, which were then unknown. Its exterior had led me to suppose it allied to Morrisia, a genus first appearing in the chalk, which in form it much resembles. I have since obtained several examples, shewing its interior; which at once shew that it does not belong to to that genus; I therefore propose for it the generic name of *Zellania*. The Zellania has a large and rounded foramen, which, like that possessed by Morrisia, encroaches on both valves; while on the other hand the interior of the dorsal valve shews that it has affinities with Thecideum, in having internal ridges and a central septum; and will consequently unite the Terebratulidæ with the Thecideidæ. The probability of the existence of a loop such as that possessed by the Argyope, has been suggested by Mr. Davidson, but although I have in several instances made dissections for its discovery, its existence cannot be satisfactorily established.

This genus is at present represented by three species. It first appears in the upper lias, where one species is found; becomes more abundant in the inferior oolite; and I have also found a single specimen in the great oolite of Hampton down.

Examples:—Zel. Davidsonii; Laboucherei; Liasiana.

ZELLANIA DAVIDSONII.—*Moore.*—Plate 1, fig. 1—3.

Shell small—rugose; presenting a slight tendency to striation; widest towards the front, and contracting slightly towards the foramen; foramen large and rounded, encroaching on both valves—slightly produced beak; hinge line straight; area small; valves convex, the dorsal one but slightly so. Interior presents a uniformly rugose, granulated structure; dorsal valve has a wide flattened margin,

surrounded by a well defined internal ridge, which is partly obliterated towards the front of the shell; it is there united by an elevated septum, occupying about half the length of the shell.

Obs. This species is the most abundant; it is from the inferior oolite of Dundry. I have much pleasure in naming it after my kind friend, Mr. Davidson, to whose aid I have been indebted in my research into the Brachiopoda, and whose beautiful work on them does him so much honour.

ZELLANIA LABOUCHEREI.—*Moore.*—Plate 1, fig. 4—5.

Shell very minute; of an elongated oval shape; front rounded; both valves equally convex; foramen large; area small; beak slightly produced; exterior of dorsal valve smooth, ventral shewing distinct concentric lines of growth.

Obs. This species is readily distinguished from the *Zel. Davidsonii*, by its more oval shape, the absence of radiating striæ, and by the constant presence of lines of growth, which, by the aid of a lens, are perceived on the ventral valve only of this species. It is from the inferior oolite of Dundry, and is very rare.

It is named after the respected president of our Taunton meeting, the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.

ZELLANIA LIASIANA.—*Moore.*—Plate 1, fig. 6—8.

Exterior of shell slightly striated, smooth, square; foramen large, triangular; valves thin and flattened; ventral slightly concave, dorsal slightly convex; interior of dorsal valve shewing strongly defined elevated ridges, which, commencing under the cural spurs, are united by a central septum.

Obs. This species, being from the *upper lias* of Ilminster, is the oldest representative of the genus yet known. It may readily be distinguished from the other species by its flattened contour, the thinness of its shell, and by the less symmetrical arrangement of the internal ridges, these being generally seen through the shell, give it a somewhat plicated character. Like the ridges in *Zel. Davidsonii*, they are partly obliterated towards the front of the shell.

Family—RHYNCHONELLIDÆ.
Genus—RHYNCHONELLA.—*Fischer.*

RHYNCHONELLA LOPENSIS.—*Moore.*—Plate 1, fig. 9—10.

Shell small—flattened; thickest at the umbo; triangular; nearly straight in front, from whence it tapers to the beak; deltideum triangular; dorsal valve slightly concave; ventral valve proportionately convex.

Obs. This little species is from a bed of blue oolitic marl, occurring in the neighbourhood of Lopen, near Ilminster, where it is very rare. In Mr. Davidson's appendix to his monograph on Brachiopoda, page 30, it is named *R. triangularis*, but that name having been previously adopted by Walenberg, it has been altered.

Family—SPIRIFERIDÆ.
Genus—SPIRIFER.—*Sowerby.*

Shells of this family had their introduction at a very early geological period. They were numerous in the intervening periods, up to the lias, in the lower beds of which one species, *S. Walcottii*, is abundant. In the middle lias there are two species, *S. Munsterii*, and *S. rostratus*. The latter species passed into the upper lias, where I have found one specimen of it. In these beds, a new but very

rare species occurs, *S. Ilminsteriensis.* This hitherto has been supposed the highest point reached by the spirifer, but the discovery of a species at Dundry carries its range into the oolitic period.

SPIRIFER OOLITICA.—*Moore.*—Plate 3, fig. 13—14.

Shell very minute, usually much broader than long, having nine distinct plications, graduating regularly from central one which is in relative proportion to the others; without defined sinus or fold; punctuations not distinguishable. Interior of valves smooth; dorsal valve having large and deep dental sockets; ventral valve having no perceptible central septum.

Obs. This little species is abundant in the inferior oolite of Dundry, and it also occurs at Seavington, near Ilminster.

Family—THECIDEIDÆ.

Genus—THECIDEUM.—*Defrance.*

The oldest forms of this genus in England are from the middle lias, from which formation I obtained three species in 1849, viz., *Thecideum Bouchardii*, Dav.; *T. Moorei*, Dav.; and *T. triangularis*, D'Orb.; which, with *T. rustica*, Moore, from the upper lias, and *T. Dickinsonii*, Moore, from the inferior oolite, comprised all the then known oolitic species. With the exception of the latter, these species have since been found by M. Eugene Deslongchamps in the *upper* lias of France; and that zealous geologist has found associated with them seven other species, so that the list has thus been considerably increased. Two liasic forms, *T. Bouchardii*, and *T. triangularis*, pass into the inferior oolite of Dundry,

where they are the most abundant species, and with them are five new species, described in this paper. Not less than nineteen liasic and oolitic species are now known.

These shells are in general attached to other bodies; and, as their forms are modified from this circumstance, greater care is necessary in the determination of species; and more especially as the same species presents great contrast in form, depending upon age and the state of perfection in which the shell is found. This may be seen on comparing *T. serratum*, fig. 3, plate 3 (in which the supra-membraneal disk is preserved), with figs. 4—5, which are more imperfect forms of the same species. The same may be noticed on comparing *T. Forbesei*, fig. 9, plate 3, with fig. 10.

THECIDEUM BOUCHARDII.—*Dav.*—Plate 1, fig. 11—13.

Shell inequivalve, flattened, sub-circular; attached by the principal portion of the ventral valve; deltideum large, elevated, triangular; area large and extended, shewing lines of growth; hinge line depressed in centre, leaving a small flat area under the deltideum; dorsal valve much smaller than the ventral. The interior of the ventral valve shews a slight middle septum, on each side of which are two large scars, due to the attachment of the cardinal muscle, on the outer edge of which are two small depressions, which received the adductor muscles; interior rugosely striated; the cavity of the valve in adult shells surrounded by a broad margin, having a wavy appearance, due to lines of growth. Interior of dorsal valve has a broad granulated margin, within which is a very high central septum, nearly reaching the surface of the opposite valve, from whence proceeds a granulated ridge, united by

a bridge over the visceral cavity; within this ridge is a smooth slightly concave space, between which and the granulated interior is a small granulated ridge.

Obs. This species has been figured by Mr. Davidson and M. Eugene Deslongchamps, but from more imperfect specimens. No examples have before been obtained so perfect as those now figured; which is due to my being successful in opening several bivalve specimens. In the detached and worn valves, the septum is less deep, and the granulations to some extent obliterated.

From the inferior oolite of Dundry, where it is common. It is also found in the upper and middle lias.

THECIDEUM GRANULOSUM.—*Moore.*—Plate 2, fig. 1—6.

Shell thick, longitudinally oval; area triangular, concave; deltideum flattened; hinge line straight; outer side of dorsal valve convex, having lines of growth and short striæ towards the frontal margin, ventral valve having a sinus in the centre. Interior of ventral valve has a central ridge through its greater length, on each side of which are muscular impressions. The interior of dorsal valve has a flattened thickly granulated margin, within which is a raised ridge, formed of larger single granulations, united in the centre by a septum occupying about one-half the length of the shell, sometimes smooth, at others covered with granulations, and joined over the visceral cavity by a bridge, the equivalent of the cural processes of Terebratula; within this ridge occurs a small raised ridge, answering to the loop in other Brachiopoda to which were attached the brachial membrane and oral arms, within which, and occupying the larger portion of the cavity of the shell, occurs a calcified supra-membraneal disk, divided by the

septum into two lobes of brain-shaped convolutions, the free portion of which extends over the visceral cavity.

Obs. This species presents considerable variety, in most cases depending upon the completeness of the supra-membraneal disk. In the varieties presented by figures 4 and 5, the raised and solid portions only of the disk are preserved. This species has more punctuations than other oolitic forms, which are particularly numerous and large in the visceral cavity.

From the inferior oolite of Dundry, and is not uncommon.

THECIDEUM DUPLICATUM.—*Moore.*—Plate 2, fig.7—12.

Shell rather broader than long; valves convex; surface slightly granulated; attached by the upper part of the ventral valve; hinge line straight; deltideum small, depressed, triangular, under which is a small flattened space; interior of the dorsal valve shews a regularly granulated margin, within which is a raised granulated ridge, united in the centre by a septum, with an enlarged granulated base, from the top of which is thrown off on either side a high ridge, in the perfect shell covered in its whole course with irregularly shaped calcareous processes, which appear in some instances long enough to reach the interior surface of the ventral valve; the ridge describing a circle returns towards the base of the central septum; over the visceral cavity is the bridge from whence two small processes depart. Interior of the ventral valve has a slightly raised septum, on either side of which are the impressions of the larger muscles; above the septum is an elevation bounded by ridges, which received the insertion of the adductor muscles.

Obs. The interior of the dorsal valve of this species is very variable; in some instances the internal ridges are formed by widely-separated granulations, of which fig. 12 is an extreme variety; in others they are continuous, as in fig. 11. Fig. 9 is drawn from a specimen I was successful in opening, but does not give a faithful representation of the spinose character of the ridges, which were accidentally broken before the drawing was made.

From the inferior oolite of Dundry.

THECIDEUM SEPTATUM.—*Moore.*—Plate 2, fig. 13—16.

Shell small, thick, transversely oval; area flattened; deltideum small, depressed; hinge line straight, exterior of the dorsal valve convex. Interior of the dorsal valve shews a raised septum or ridge, from which, in the middle, spring lateral branches, assuming the form of a letter Y; these traverse the length of the shell, and occasionally divide it into three nearly equal parts; outer margin small, and slightly granulated, within which is a granulated ridge. The interior of the ventral valve has a slightly raised central ridge.

This species is rare. It is from the inferior oolite, Dundry.

THECIDEUM SERRATUM.—*Moore.*—Plate 3, fig. 1—6.

Shell inequivalve, triangular, very small; attached to other bodies by the whole of the ventral valve, and by an expanded base; area flattened; deltideum very long, rounded, shewing lines of growth. Exterior of dorsal valve flattened, or slightly convex, rather more than half the length of the whole shell. External front of the ventral valve very raised, shewing punctuations, sometimes

striate. Interior of the ventral valve shews two produced teeth, between which, under the deltideum, is a small central ridge, on either side of which are muscular depressions; beyond which are the impressions of the larger muscles. About the middle of the cavity of the valve, commence striated ribs, which become more produced as they approach the inner front of the shell, terminating at the margin of the valve in small bosses or knobs. The interior of the dorsal valve has a deep frontal margin, comprising nearly half the area of the valve, chiefly occupied by a series of deep grooves, which received, when closed, the bosses of the ventral valve; where the grooves cease, a flattened striated band occurs. Within the margin is an elevated ridge, with granulations, united at the top by a straight ridge, forming a bridge over an elongated visceral cavity, and at the bottom by a broad septum. The inner portion of the valve is occupied by a calcified supra-membraneal disk, divided into two lobes by the central septum.

Obs. This beautiful species of Thecideum is the only one which presents so peculiar a frontal margin. It is very rarely found perfect; only two specimens shewing the supra-membraneal disk having been obtained. The usual forms of the less perfect dorsal valves may be seen in varieties fig. 4—5. On the interior of the dorsal valves are large punctuations. The outer front of the ventral valve, when perfect, is also punctuated; but when worn, the internal striated ribs appear.

From the inferior oolite of Dundry.

THECIDEUM FORBESEI.—*Moore.*—Plate 3, fig. 8—10.

Shell transversely oval, depressed, smooth; deltideum short, raised, triangular; area flat; hinge line straight;

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margin of valves equal; attached by the whole of the larger valve. The interior of the ventral valve shews under the deltideum three little ridges, between which are situated muscular depressions; towards the front of the shell are short expanded ribs. The interior of the dorsal valve has a rounded visceral cavity, surmounted by the bridge, and partly hidden by the supra-membraneal disk, which in this species is formed by two circular platforms, on the outer edge of which, and scattered over its surface, are arranged a number of elevated granulations. These are divided in the centre by a long septum, from the base of which proceeds the outer granulated ridge, and beyond this is a small granulated margin.

Obs. The interior of the ventral valve of this species is not unlike *T. serratum*, but it wants the elevated front of that shell; and it may also be distinguished by its more oval shape and less produced beak. When the supra-membraneal disk is wanting, the dorsal valve shews two small oblong elevations on each side of the septum, as seen in the variety fig. 10.

This little species is named in remembrance of that eminent and lamented palæontologist, Professor E. FORBES. It is from the inferior oolite of Dundry.

THECIDEUM TRIANGULARIS.—*D'Orb.*

Plate 3, fig. 11—12.

Shell triangular, longer than broad; deltideum small, area flat; hinge line straight; small valve slightly convex. Interior of ventral valve divided by a straight ridge occupying the length of the shell. Interior of the dorsal valve has a granulated marginal ridge, from the centre of which

rises a thick triangular septum, on either side of which is a small sub-circular ridge, formed by a range of granulations.

Obs. This species has been figured by Mr. Davidson and M. E. Deslongchamps, the latter of whom mentions that the sub-circular ridges in the French specimens are sometimes formed of a double line of granulations. In examples that have come under my observation, the ridge is usually made up of single granulations, and those at times widely separated; but I have no hesitation in placing them under this species. It is common in the inferior oolite ot Dundry; the large valve is found in abundance attached to oyster and other shells, in the fuller's earth near Combe Down, Bath; it occurs in the great oolite of Hampton Down, and I have obtained it in the middle lias of Ilminster.

PLATES TO ILLUSTRATE

MR. CHARLES MOORE'S PAPER

ON NEW BRACHIOPODA.

In each plate, the small lines placed by the figures, are intended to denote their natural size.

PLATE I.

Fig.

1. Zellania Davidsonii, *Moore*, perfect shell, enlarged; *f*, foramen.
2. „ „ Ventral valve enlarged.
3. „ „ Interior of dorsal valve enlarged, shewing its rugose surface; *c*, cardinal process; *a*, area; *t*, teeth sockets; *r*, ridge; *s*, septum.
4. Zellania Laboucherei, *Moore*, perfect shell, enlarged.
5. „ „ Exterior of ventral valve, shewing lines of growth.
6. Zellania liasiana, *Moore*, enlarged illustration.
7. „ „ Ventral valve enlarged.
8. „ „ Interior of dorsal valve, enlarged; shewing teeth sockets, cural spurs, ridges, and septum.
9. Rhynchonella Lopensis, *Moore*, enlarged figure.
10. „ „ Ventral valve enlarged.
11. Thecideum Bouchardii, *Dav.*, enlarged illustration of the perfect shell, shewing the comparative size of the dorsal valve, and the wavy margin of the larger valve; *a*, area; *d*, deltideum.
12. „ „ Interior of the ventral valve, enlarged; *m*, muscular depressions.

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Plate I

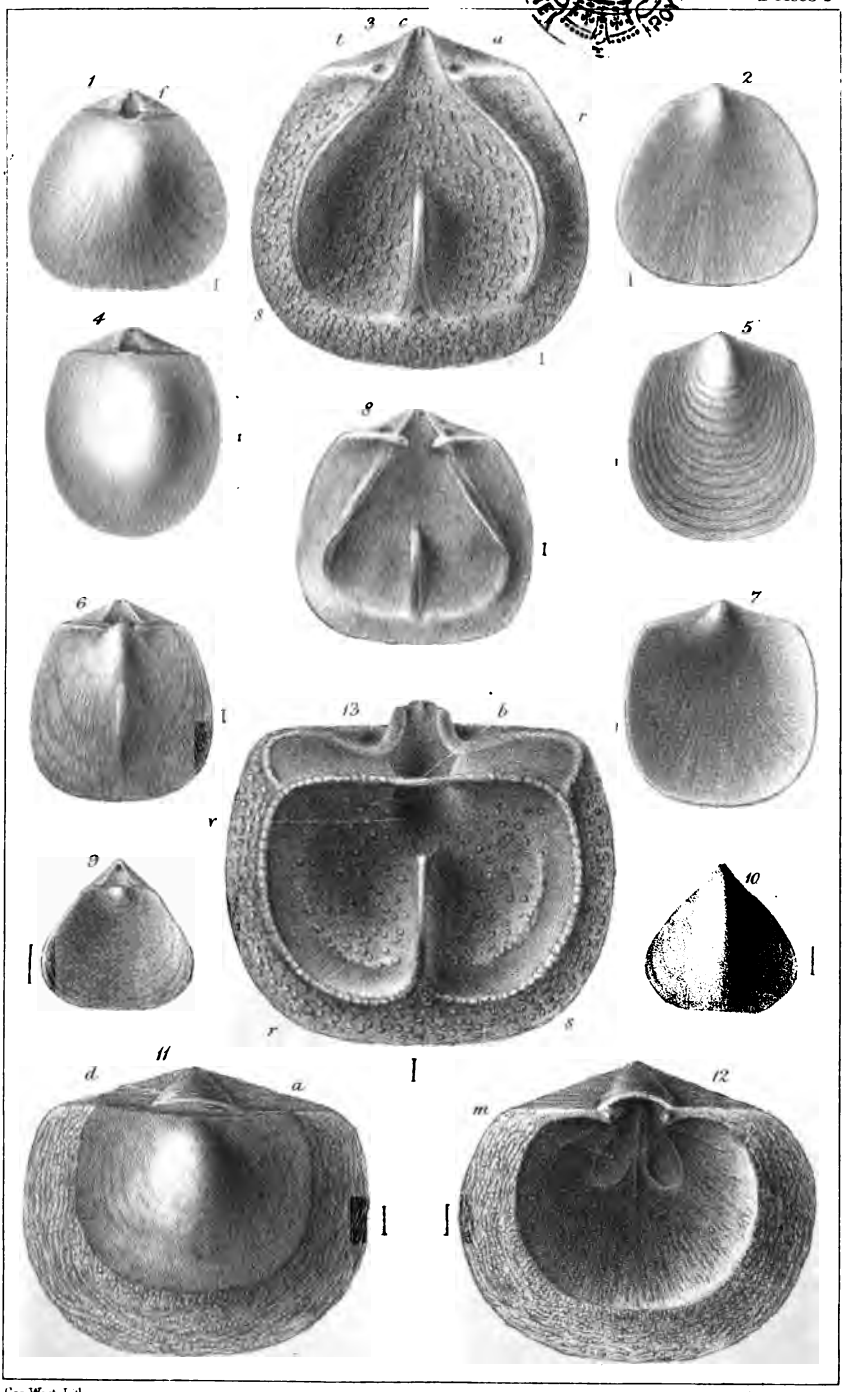

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PLATE II.

Fig.

1. Thecideum granulosum, *Moore*, perfect shell, enlarged.
2. „ „ Enlarged exterior of ventral valve, shewing attached portion.
3. „ „ Interior of dorsal valve, enlarged; *m*, the perfect calcified supra-membraneal disk; *s*, septum.
4. „ „ Another enlarged dorsal valve; *b*, the bridge; *v*, visceral cavity; *l*, loop; *r*, granulated ridge; *m*, solid portion of supra-membraneal disk.
5. „ „ Variety of dorsal valve, enlarged.
6. „ „ Interior of ventral valve enlarged.
7. Thecideum duplicatum, *Moore*, perfect shell, enlarged.
8. „ „ Exterior of ventral valve, enlarged, shewing point of attachment.
9. „ „ Enlarged illustration of interior of dorsal valve, shewing spinose ridges; *b*, bridge, with two small processes.
10. „ „ Enlarged interior of ventral valve, shewing teeth and muscular depressions.

11—12. „ „ Dorsal valves, enlarged varieties.

13. Thecideum septatum, *Moore*, perfect shell; enlarged.
14. „ „ Dorsal valve, enlarged; shewing bridge and internal ridges.
15. „ „ Dorsal valve; variety; enlarged.
16. „ „ Interior of dorsal valve, enlarged.

Plate II.

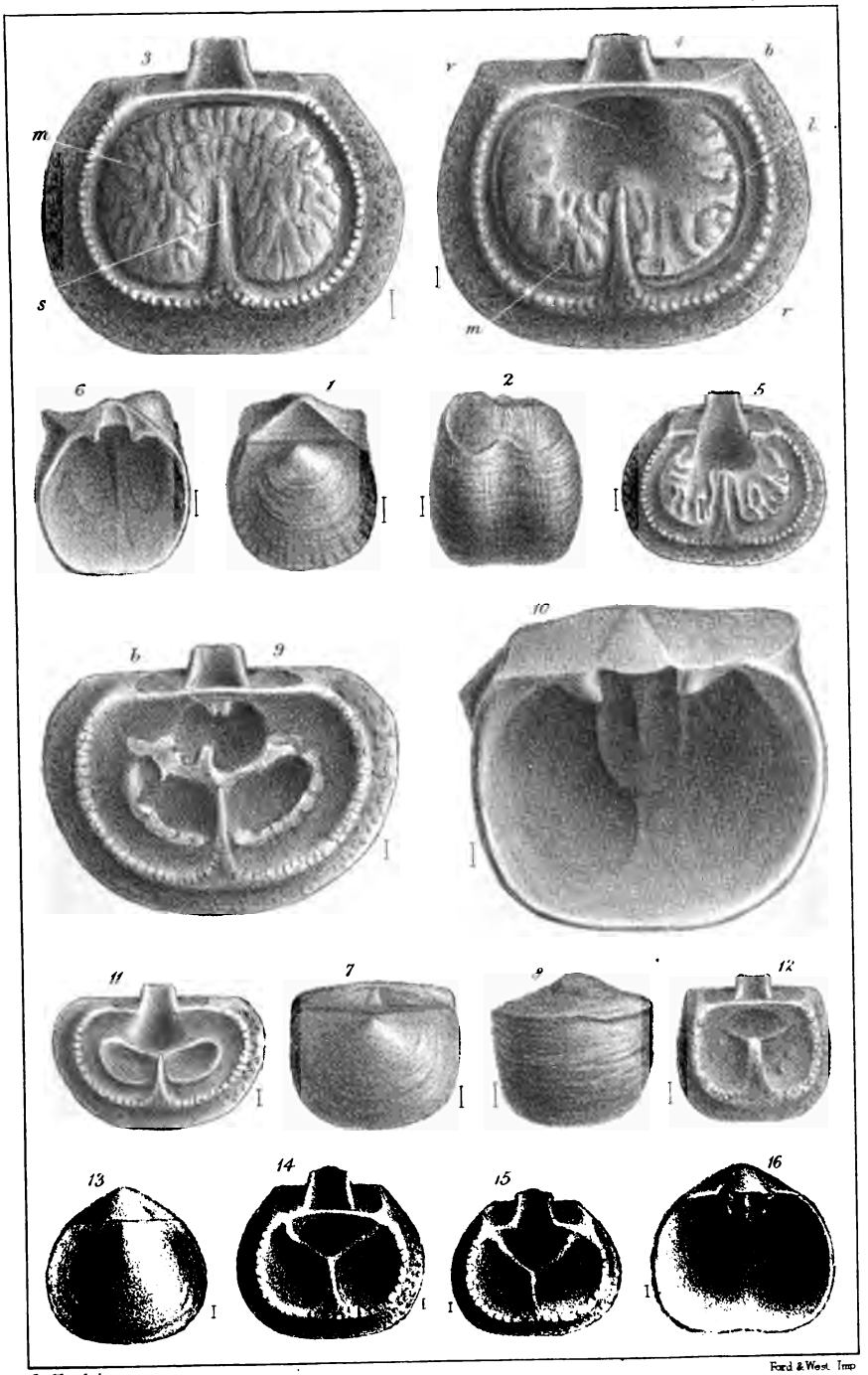

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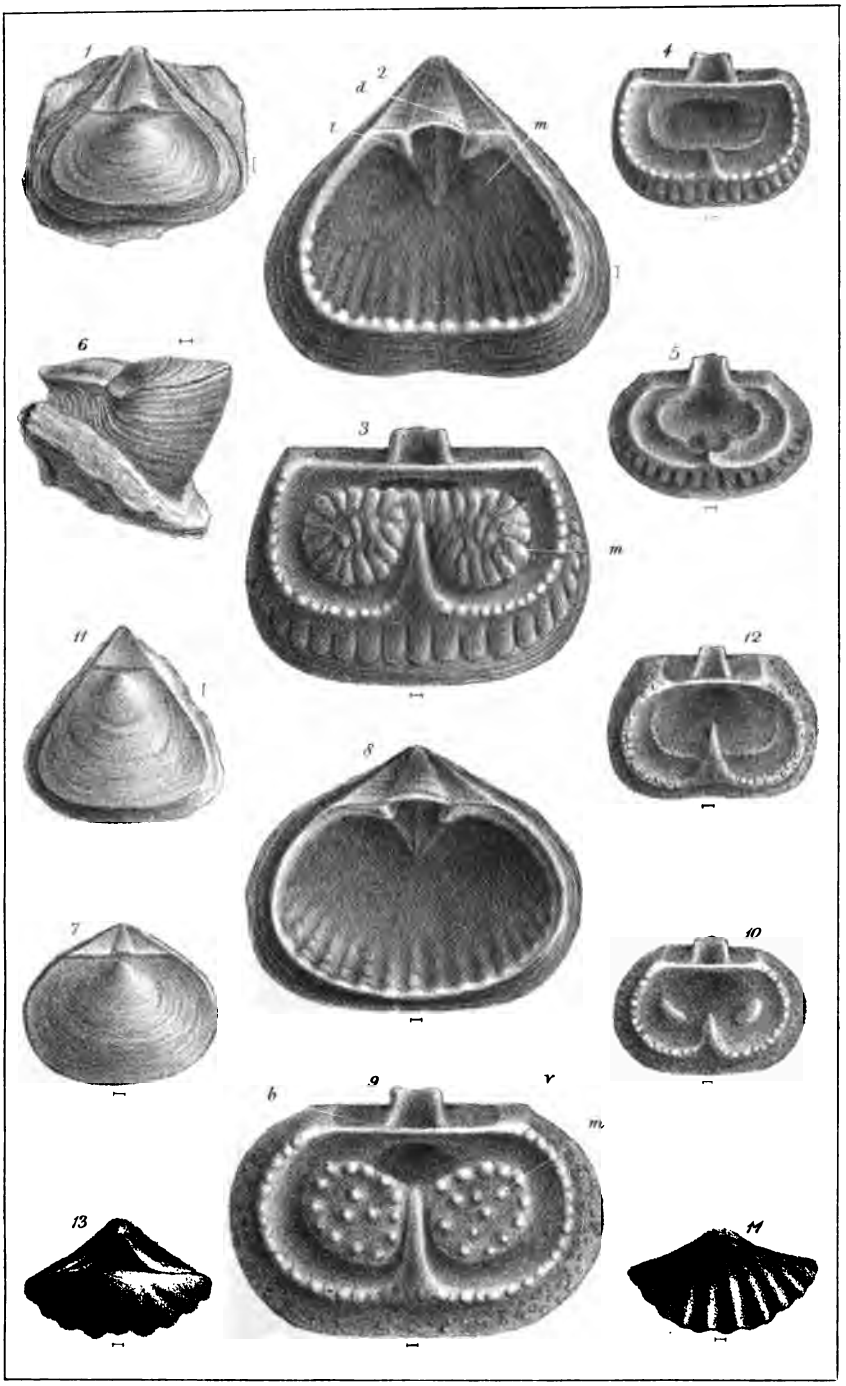
PLATE III.

Fig.

1. Thecideum serratum, *Moore*, perfect shell, enlarged; shewing expanded base of attachment.
2. „ „ Enlarged interior of ventral valve, shewing internal ribs and bosses on the edge of the valve; *m*, muscular impressions; *t*, teeth; *d*, deltideum.
3. „ „ Dorsal valve, enlarged; *m*, perfect supra-membraneal disk; and shewing besides the bridge, raised ridge and septum; also the grooved margin.
4—5. „ „ Enlarged varieties.
6. „ „ Profile enlarged; shewing the produced front and deltideum.
7. Thecideum Forbesii, *Moore*, perfect shell; enlarged.
8. „ „ Interior of ventral valve, enlarged.
9. „ „ Interior of dorsal valve, enlarged; *b*, bridge; *v*. visceral cavity; *m*, supra-membraneal disk with granulations.
10. „ „ Imperfect or worn variety, enlarged.
11. Thecideum triangularis, *D'Orb*, perfect shell, enlarged.
21. „ „ Interior of dorsal valve, var.
13. Spirifer oolitica, *Moore*, enlarged exterior.
14. „ „ Exterior of ventral valve, enlarged.



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On the Natural History of the Past Year.

BY THE REV. W. R. CROTCH.

THE object of the present paper is to bring before the notice of the meeting, such facts connected with Natural History, as have come to our knowledge during the past year. They are few in number, and not, perhaps, of much importance, except as possessing a local interest.

Many, perhaps, now present, have only heard vaguely, if at all, of the singular discovery of fossil oaks made last autumn, in the excavations at the gaol in this town.

The facts are briefly these.—At a depth of 18 feet from the surface, a bed of vegetable matter was dug into, consisting of matted leaves, fragments and trunks of trees, and amongst them a quantity of hazel nuts and decayed acorns. The leaves were capable of separation, and still exhibited the autumnal tint, being undecayed, and belonging to different species of willow, hazel, and oak. The trees are both oak and alder; eleven oaks were found, for the most part perfectly sound, and capable of taking a high polish, but quite blackened. One portion of one of the stems was 60 feet long, and 2 feet thick; another was 4 feet 4 inches thick, and apparently at least 40 feet long; the branches of one of the trees can be traced. The

alders still exhibit the red color of their wood when cut through. These trees were not lying in any definite direction, but across each other in confusion; the roots were still attached to the trunks, but without fibres; and fresh bark still clothed several of the stems; no marks of axe or hatchet have been discovered. The bed of vegetable matter in which they were found inclines and deepens towards the north, being about a foot thick at the upper end, and about 5 feet at the lower. This bed rests on a thin layer of blue clay, scarcely one foot deep; immediately above it is another layer of the same blue clay, of about the same depth; above this, a layer of 5 feet of a reddish clay, then another seam of blue, and lastly, nearly 8 feet of a yellowish clay, with a still thinner seam of blue, about the middle. All these seams and beds are sharply defined, and for the most part horizontal.

In another excavation made a few years since, for the new Gas works, near the river, trees were also found, some of which had become so hard that they could not be cut, while others were in a similar condition with those now discovered. At that time, also, a pair of horns were dug up which are supposed to be those of the Elk.

In excavating a further portion of the ground at the gaol, there has been found, 6 feet above the level of the trees, the skull and teeth, with some bones, of a pachydermatous animal; and a comparison of these bones, and especially the teeth, with some previously determined specimens from other localities, leaves little, if any, room to doubt that this animal was a Rhinoceros.*

To an early portion, therefore, of the post-tertiary period, we must refer these remains, and therefore the

* It has since been identified by Prof. Quekett as a Rhinoceros tichorinus.

trees which lie beneath them; and, instead of the Bishop of Winchester's Porcarium, as I had last year ventured to suggest, from the scanty data then afforded, a grander picture rises before us of the vale of Taunton in its youthful days, clothed with mighty forests, and every eminence at least capped with noble oaks, under which disported, not pigs, but the hyæna, the wild deer, the tiger, the bear, the elephant, the rhinoceros.

I have another geological fact to announce—the discovery of what is commonly called a petrifying spring, on Pickeridge Hill, I believe, by the Rev. Mr. Stretch. These springs, holding calcareous matter in solution, and in such excess, that they readily part with some of it, and deposit it on whatever substance may lie in their course, which substance frequently perishes, and leaves only the calcareous case, though not uncommon, are yet sufficiently rare to justify our noticing them on such occasions as this.

In ornithology, it may be worth mentioning, that the doubt which seems to have existed as to the plumage of the adult Montague's Harrier, one of the hawks, has been removed by the acquisition of a nest of young birds and both the parents. The plumage of the male is of an uniform leaden grey, with only very faint indications of bars on the tail. Mr. Yarrell has observed, that this bird has been found in Devonshire and Cornwall, and mentions a specimen from Dolgelly, but farther westward than this he had not traced it. Its occurrence, therefore, in Somersetshire, was only a thing to be expected; and the wonder is, that it should not have been observed—or rather perhaps I should say distinguished—here, till within these last few years; for the bird was known under the name of the black hawk, the specimens shot not having arrived at their adult plumage.

Any deviation from the instinctive habits of birds, will, perhaps, be allowed to be deserving of record. Everyone, we may suppose, knows that the swallow almost always builds its nest in unused chimneys, and hence is commonly called the chimney swallow. Last spring, a pair of these birds chose for their habitation a magnolia tree, growing near a house at Corfe; such deviations as these, however, are not so uncommon as we should most of us in our ignorance suppose. Yarrell has recorded, that in the north of England, these birds frequently build in the unused shafts of mines, or in old walls, sometimes under the roof of a barn or open shed, between the rafters and the thatch or tiles. Turrets intended for bells are often resorted to, and unused rooms, or passages in out-houses, to which access can be gained by the round hole to be observed cut in the doors to such buildings, and within which the birds take advantage of any projecting peg, or end of a beam, that will serve as a buttress to support the rest. "I have heard," he says, "of a nest made by a pair of swallows in the half open drawer of a small deal table, in an unoccupied garret, to which access was obtained by a broken pane of glass." Pennant mentions an instance in which a pair of swallows attached their nest to the body and wing of an owl, nailed against a barn. Mr. Yarrell, however, concludes with saying that another most unusual selection of a situation for a swallow's nest is the branches of a tree, which he moreover thinks deserving of a spirited vignette, and which justifies me in bringing our similar example before your notice.

In zoology, I am enabled to add another habitat for the *Lisso-triton palmipes*, or palmated smooth newt, which was found by my son in the pond at Stoke Court. There were only three species of newt or water eft known in Britain

up to the year 1843. The first discovery of the *Lissotriton palmipes* was made by the late lamented Mr. Baker, of Bridgwater. Since then the same species has been found near Edinburgh, and still farther north; also at Ryde in the Isle of Wight, and near Poole, in Dorsetshire. The principal distinctions, according to Professor Bell, between this and the more common species are, that in the male, the hinder feet are palmate, the toes being connected by a web, which, however, in the winter, becomes a mere fringe, and the tail, which terminates abruptly, is furnished at its extremity with a small filament, which in the male varies in length from two to four inches, and in the female dwindles to a mere mucronation.

In botany, I have observed the *Ornithogalum umbellatum*, or star of Bethlehem, in great plenty, in a corn-field, at Stoke St. Mary. I am not aware that it occurs anywhere else in this part of Somersetshire, but I find that Mr. Watson, in his *Cybele Britannica*, regards it as an introduced plant wherever it occurs in this country. I have also gathered the *Lathyrus sylvestris*, or narrow leaved everlasting pea, at Stoke; and the *Anagallis cærulea*, or blue pimpernell. The range of both these plants being limited, I consider their occurrence worthy of record; botanists have not yet decided whether the scarlet and blue pimpernell are distinct species, and Mr. Borrer has suggested that the discrepancies which occur may be resolved by considering them as distinct, and that each species varies with red and blue flowers.

If we could but induce the members of the Society to note down whatever they may observe in Natural History, and communicate it to the secretaries, or write a statement of it themselves, we might hope to arrive in time at a complete Natural History of Somersetshire.

Even fresh discoveries in English botany have not yet ceased; about a month ago, a plant was gathered in Herefordshire, which the lady who found it could not make out; she sent it to me, and I also was unable to reduce it to any known British genus; I therefore sent it to Mr. Watson, who pronounced it to be the *Epipogium aphyllum*, an orchideous plant, not uncommon in some parts of the Continent, but never before found in England.

I mention this to stimulate the zeal of explorers, and to caution them against passing by, as mere monstrosities or varieties, plants which they cannot make out by such books as the Manual of Botany by Mr. Babington, which is the most complete record we have of British plants.

It is not impossible that some may find a yet unrecorded plant, but, at the least, we should gain a complete list of the flora of our own county. In the lower tribes of plants, the confervæ and the fungi, there is an abundant harvest; and those who delight in microscopical investigations will find their labor amply repaid. The *Peziza badia* (Hook) grows at Stoke St. Mary, and the *Polyporus lucidus* has been found in the neighbourhood of Taunton.

Allow me, in conclusion, to urge the importance of a suggestion, which has been made in the circular lately issued to the members, that specimens of all the different rocks and minerals of Somersetshire should be collected and labelled, and deposited in the Museum. The very extensive collection which the Society purchased of the late Rev. Mr. Williams is too excursive not to render a strictly Somersetshire series desirable and valuable.

Appendix to Papers on Ancient Sepulchral Remains.

BY THE REV. H. M. SCARTH.

WHILE the account contained in the former part of this journal was going through the press, my attention was called to another discovery of two stone coffins, at Coombe Down, on the same piece of ground as the former, but 47 feet more to the north. The coffins being placed as the former—north and south, and the pair lying together; the head of each coffin being turned towards the north, and the feet towards the south, this being also the position of the skeleton within each.

The length of coffin (marked I) is about 6 feet 3 inches outside, and 6 feet inside, roughly hewn, and the upper end very irregular in form. The width about the centre, 20 inches, and tapering towards the feet. In this was found a skeleton entire, with a small coin lying on the lower jaw, which was discoloured by the coin becoming corroded. The coin, which is small brass, is illegible, but appears to be Roman. A nail is said to have been driven into the upper jaw, as if the lips had been fastened by it. At the feet of this skeleton, and within the coffin, were found

three skulls, but no other parts of the bodies. Outside the coffin, however, on the east side, were found bones, which appeared to belong to these skeletons, but without skulls. The cover of this coffin was composed of 4 pieces of stone; the portion which covered the head and breast was plain, and in shape adapted to the coffin; the length 2 feet 10 inches, and breadth 22 inches. The middle and lower portions of the coffin was covered with a stone regularly cut, and with a margin round it, and an inscription within the margin, which, on being examined, proved to be in latin, and commemorated the restoration of a building; this stone had been afterwards adapted to the purpose of the coffin-lid. The inscription is given below, with a drawing of the stone and letters on it, and the rendering of them, which I believe to be accurate. The inscription has nothing whatever to do with the interment. Two small stones made out the length of the coffin.

At the distance of 2 feet 5 inches from this coffin, lay another (marked J), the length of which was 7 feet outside, and 6 feet 4 inches inside; it was covered with a stone formed of one piece originally, but now broken in the middle; the thickness of this lid is 8 inches; the length 6 feet 2 inches, and breadth 2 feet 2 inches. Within this coffin was a skeleton of large size, the thigh bone measuring 1 foot 6 inches in length and 4 inches in girt. The length of the jaw 6 inches, the teeth in excellent preservation, being very large and one of them decayed, and the skull $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch thick. Both these skeletons had the face turned upward, or rather reclining on one side. The coffin No. 2 tapered as usual towards the feet; the skeleton was entire. In these coffins were found, as in the preceding ones, small iron studs, united together by thin plates, and long thin nails.


PRO SALVTE IMP CAESARIS
ANTONINI PII FELICIS AVG
BRITANNICI PARTHICI
MAXIMI TRIBVNICIAE
POTESTATIS XVII IMP II
COS III P P
1 FOOT

The most curious and important part of this discovery is the inscription contained on a portion of the lid of the coffin, marked (I). This will help us to approximate towards the probable date of these interments.

The Plate opposite is a correct drawing of the stone, which is engraved also in the last number of the Journal of the Archæological Institute, and to the kindness of the secretaries, I am indebted for the engraving, which is very faithful, with a single exception. The word "Antonini" at the commencement of the second line appears to have been written with two N's, thus ANTONNINI, this seems afterwards to have been altered by the stone-cutter, and a small I inserted above the N in the third syllable, and the last N converted into PI, as there is a slight curved indentation in the stone. In the engraving, the P is given very marked, whereas in the stone, the N is most decided, and the curved part of the P comparatively faint, although distinctly to be traced.

The inscription may be read as follows :—

PRO SALUTE IMPERATORIS CAESARIS
MARCI AURELII
ANTONINI PII FELICIS INVICTI
AUGUSTI ..... NAEVIUS AUGUSTI
LIBERTUS ADJUTOR PROCURATORUM
PRINCIPIA
RUINA OPPRESSA A SOLO RESTITUIT.

and thus translated:—

For the safety of the Emperor, Cæsar, Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, the Pious, Fortunate, and Invincible, Augustus, ... Nœvius, the Freedman of Augustus, and the Assistant of the Procurators, restored these chief military quarters which had fallen to ruin.

I am indebted to Dr. Bruce, the learned historian of the Roman wall, and a most accurate investigator of Roman inscriptions, for elucidating what has, from the first, been the chief difficulty in this inscription, *i.e.*, the word PRINCIPIA in the fourth line, which was at first read PRIMARIUS, and the word PROVINCIÆ, or PRETORIUM also suggested. A knot in the stone, (which is not quite accurately given in the plate), at the top of the right limb of the N, between it and the C, which is only faintly traceable, occasioned the difficulty. Dr. Bruce has given the following valuable remarks on the inscription which I here insert from the Archæological Journal, (No. 45, p. 93.) "The first question that arises here is respecting the Emperor specially addressed. I find that the names and epithets used in this inscription are in others applied both to Caracalla and Heliogabalus, with the exception of the word *invictus*, and in no other instance that I can find is this applied to either of these Emperors. I incline to Mr. Frank's opinion, that Heliogabalus is the person here intended, for the following reasons:— 1. On the murder of Heliogabalus, his name seems to have been erased from inscriptions, or the slabs themselves thrown down. This stone having been used to cover a tomb, must have previously been removed from its original position. 2. From the indistinctness of some of the letters, the inscription seems not to have been deeply carved, this, together with the omission of the A in Cæsaris, and the occurrence of tied letters, seems to indicate the later rather than the earlier period. 3. Had Caracalla been the person intended, one of his well-known epithets, such as *Parthicus*, *Britannicus*, or *Germanicus*, would probably have occupied the place of *invictus*; so far as I have noticed Heliogabalus had gained no such distinctions: his

flatterers, therefore, on his assuming the purple, would have no resource left but to bestow upon him the indefinite title of *invictus*." In a private letter to myself, the Doctor also adds—"I wish I had seen your impression of the stone before I wrote to Mr. Way upon the subject; the sculptor has made more slips than I was aware of, all which make for the late rather than the earlier period."

The next thing which must be noticed is the name of the dedicator. The name NAEVIVS occurs in Gruter. It is not without interest to observe, that one of the examples furnished by that author (p. civ. No. 9) contains the epithet *adjutor* appended:—

TVTELAE
V. S.
P. NAEVIVS
ADJVTOR

The Nœvius of the slab found in Bath was a Freedman of Augustus, and an assistant or secretary of the procurators of the province. We are not without an authority for the reading *Adjutor Procuratorum*. In Gruter, p. cccIxii., No. 8, the following occurs.

MEMORIAE, AVRELI
DEMETRI. ADJVTORI.
PROCC. .....

With reference to the office of Procurator, Dr. William Smith, in his Dictionary of Antiquities, Art. *Provincia*, has this remark, "No quæstors were sent to the provinces of the Cæsar. In the place of the quæstors, there were *Procuratores Cæsaris*, who were either equites or freedmen of the Cæsar. The procuratores looked after the taxes,

paid the troops, and generally were entrusted with the interests of the Fiscus."

The individual in question was a *freedman of the Emperor*, and though at the time that the dedication was made he was only an assistant to the procurators, he might be in training for the personal assumption of the office. An inscription found at York, within Micklegate Bar, confirms the reading AVG LIB, Augusti Libeatus, it is as follows :

BRITANNIÆ
SANCTÆ
P. NICOMEDES
AVGG. N.N.
LIBERTVS.

It is a votive tablet erected to the Genius of Britain, by Publius Nicomedes, a freedman of the Augusti, probably of Severus and his son Caracalla. See Gough's *Camden*, vol. 3, p. 62.

Until the writer of these remarks had communicated with Dr. Bruce, he was inclined to refer the dedication of the inscription to Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, the successor of Antoninus Pius; or to the Emperor Caracalla, the son of Severus, who is called in inscriptions Marcus Aurelius Antoninus. Thus, on the portico of the Pantheon at Rome, he is united with his father under these names, and is so styled in several inscriptions in this country. See an inscription found at Greta Bridge, Yorkshire ; one found at Caerleon, Monmouthshire; and also at Reichester, Northumberland. Given in the *Mon. Hist. Brit.*, Insc. 16a and 39, and Horsley, p. 321 and 103, and xciv. p. 262. But the Doctor appears to him to have adduced satisfactory reasons for referring it rather to the Emperor Heliogabalus.

The Emperor Severus died at York, A.D. 211, and by his will left his empire to his two sons, Caracalla and

Geta. The latter was murdered by his brother Caracalla, who was himself assassinated at Edessa, by Macrinus, A.D. 217. Heliogabalus, after an infamous reign of three years, was put to death by his soldiers, A.D. 222; so that, to whichever of these Emperors this inscription is referred, we have only a difference of eleven years; and the date of the burials is no doubt some years posterior to either of these periods.

The word which has given most trouble in interpreting the reading of the slab, appears to be rightly explained by Dr. Bruce to be PRINCIPIA. The difficulty has arisen from the stone being damaged in this part. Dr. Bruce observes "we are necessarily driven to conjecture, in order to supply the vacuity between the N and the I at the end of the fourth line," where there is the faint mark of a curved letter, most probably part of a C. The inscription speaks of the restoration of something which had become ruinous. The other words of the inscription are perfectly intelligible, and this is the only word doubtful, yet upon it rests the determination of the object to which the building was dedicated. In the station at Lanchester a slab has been found (Horsley, Durham No. xii.) containing on its third and fourth lines the following words:—

PRINCIPIA ET ARMEN
TARIA CONLAPSA RESTITVIT

Here, as Dr. Bruce observes, "we have evidence that there was a class of buildings, called *Principia*, which, like other buildings would fall into ruin and require restoration. The only letters which are difficult to trace are, the first I in the word, which seems to have been attached to the top of the left limb of the N; and the C," the curved portion of which can most certainly be traced.

The word *Principia* has been thus explained; see *Facciolati* in verb. *Principium*:—"Principia — orum; Locus in castris, ubi erat Prætorium, et tabernacula legatorum et tribunorum militum, et signa legionum; et ubi conciones militares et concilia habebantur, jus dicebatur, sacra fiebant. *Ἀρχαῖα.* ita dictus vel quod ibi Principes ac duces exercitus tenderent (had their tents pitched), vel quod in castris metandis *principio* designaretur, postea reliqua castra."

Any who are desirous of further information on this point, I would refer to *Lipsius de militia Romana*, lib. quintus. See edition printed at Antwerp, 1598, pp. 230, 231.

Dr. Bruce observes that the word may probably here be translated *Officers' Barracks.*

We ought next to try to determine the spot from whence the slab was taken; it certainly seems to show that there was a military station near. By the assistance of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society, I have been enabled to make some excavations on the site of a building near at hand, which, from the remains, appears certainly to have been Roman; Roman coins having been dug up, as well as roofing-tiles and nails. The remains of a glass unguentory, and coarse baked pottery. This appears to have been an oblong building, placed north and south, the total length of which is 81 feet by 18 feet, and is composed of two compartments, one smaller than the other, and separated by a partition wall. At some distance below this is a fine spring of water, where an arched bath seems to have been constructed; there is, however, no appearance of a fortified camp that I can detect, and it may be doubted if the inscription belonged to this building, the purpose of which I am unable to decide.

It has been a subject of doubt if Bath was in Roman times a military station. The finding this slab leads to the supposition, that, in the near neighbourhood of Bath, if not in the city itself, was a station.

I find that in April, 1822, stone coffins were discovered also at Coombe Down, near the site of these last, and that they lie in the same position as those already mentioned. The remains of a Roman station, near the spot, are also said to have been examined by the Rev. R. Warner, who traced the walls:—"The two places laid open appeared to be parts of distinct structures, at a distance of 30 or 40 yards asunder. That of the highest and most considerable, if we may judge from the ridges in the turf which appeared to mark out the continuance of it, formed the outline, in the shape of a parallelogram, the usual form of *campi exploratívi*, but from its diminutive size, about 40 paces long by 25 broad, it would seem to be the foundation of a building, perhaps a prætorium or *temple*."—Extract from the *Bath and Cheltenham Gazette*, April, 1822.

Time and further excavations in this very interesting spot, may reveal more that is of historical value. It is however, not a little gratifying to the writer of this notice on Stone Coffins, that the investigation of these curious remains should have led to the discovery of an inscription of such deep interest. Had former discoveries been accurately examined, no doubt other inscriptions might have been preserved from destruction, which would have thrown light upon the history of our native country, and the manners and habits of the times.

Many curious facts have come to his knowledge since he commenced this enquiry, but if they were recorded, the length of this communication would be unduly extended; he will hope, therefore, to produce them on some

future occasion, and content himself with a simple enumeration.

In 1819, in the parish of Bathwick, where the stone coffin before mentioned was found, there were discovered 20 human skeletons lying together—some on one side, and others on their faces—and in one of the skulls a large iron nail was found driven quite through the crown. Near one of the skeletons, a copper box, nearly in the form of an inkstand, and opening with a spring, was discovered; it contained eight small *Roman* coins, all of the lower empire. A large fibula of fine brass was likewise dug up, the top of which was shaped like a cross, composed of three balls. Three coins were likewise dug up, one of which was of the city of Constantinople. About 40 yards distant was found, at the same time, a *leaden* coffin, with the head lying towards the *east*, containing a perfect human male skeleton.* The box discovered was of copper, about 2½ inches high, divided into two by the upper part (1 inch high) drawing off. The fibula was of brass, gilt, of a handsome but common form, and supposed to be Roman.

In 1823, on Bathwick Hill, where Mr. Wallinger's house now stands, at a small depth from the surface, a stone coffin was also discovered, lying north and south, rudely finished; the cover formed of various stones, which appeared to have been disturbed, and the skull of the person interred taken out, and thrown on the outside, near the feet. The remaining bones were found in the coffin, and with them several fragments of earthen cups, and a larger one of Samian ware, used for libations, and fallen in two. A Roman coin, of small brass, was found near the coffin; also a glass bead, the size of a marble, perforated; and a

* A stone coffin lined with lead has lately been found at Caerwent. See Archæological Journal, No. 45, p. 76.

small brass hook, apparently part of a larger article, calculated to confine some part of the dress. A few yards from the coffin was picked up a small silver coin, which was supposed to be British or Gaulish. The coin was about the size of the Roman denarius, disked; on the obverse a rude head, on the reverse a poise.

In 1815, a stone coffin and lid of another were found at Walcot, near Messrs. Sainsbury's brewery; and with them an urn, of lemon-colored tint; two fragments of Samian pottery; also coins of Claudius, Nero, Vespasian, Domitian, Carausius, and Constantine. Either the Claudius or Vespasian was found *inside* the coffin, but which coin is now uncertain.

It will be remembered that Dr. Musgrave, in his *Belgium Britannicum*, devotes a portion of his work to these curious remains, and makes mention where they had been found in his time; and endeavours to trace their origin, giving also a drawing of one. He does not, however, attempt to determine their date. They appear to have been used very early, as Plutarch relates that Numa was buried in a stone coffin, and his laws in another. He says, "They did not burn the body, because he forbade it; but they made two stone coffins, and buried him under the janiculum ; the one containing his body, and the other the sacred books which he had written."—Plutarch, *Vita Numæ*. Thus we find them very early in use.

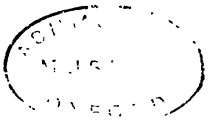
We find them also in use after the time of Marcus Aurelius Antonius, and resting upon the remains of Roman buildings, and also covered with the remains of a Roman edifice, as at Coombe Down; yet quite distinct from Christian usage, in their position and accompaniments. We may, therefore, probably regard them of very different dates; but I am inclined to think these found at Coombe

Down may be applied to the period between the departure of the Romans and coming of the Saxons, or the Roman-British period. As a fact corroborative of this, I may mention that stone coffins were found above the ancient Roman baths at Bath, and resting on the flooring of the baths. They are described in Dr. Lucas' work on the Bath waters; he considered them to be Saxon, but it may be doubted if this idea is correct, as no such coffins have (as far as I can discover) been found in ancient Saxon cemeteries, neither can they be regarded as Christian. The position of the coffins, north and south, and the coin in the mouth of the corpse, forbid this supposition. For this reason I am inclined to believe them to be Romano-British.

NOTE.

I have lately been informed that there is in the Museum of Roman Antiquities at Mayence, a curious instance of the adaptation of a Roman monument to the purpose of a Frankish coffin. This is a circumstance somewhat similar to what has been found at Coombe Down; and the only other instance that I recollect of a like adaptation was one shewn me by that excellent antiquary, the Rev. James Raine, of Durham, who found a Roman altar converted to the purpose of a Christian grave-stone, in the burial ground of a cathedral; the upper portion exposed to the weather being entirely worn away, but the part which had been buried remained perfect. It is now in the Museum of Antiquities in the Chapter Library.

It may not here be out of place to remark, that two human skeletons have lately been discovered at Pierce-bridge, on the river Tees, an ancient Roman station, each with a small earthen jar placed on the breast.



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THE BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.
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THE SUSSEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.
THE BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.
THE SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

RULES.

I. THIS Society shall be denominated "THE SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY;" and its objects shall be, the cultivation of, and collecting information on, Archæology and Natural History, in their various branches, but more particularly in connection with the County of Somerset.

II. The Society shall consist of a Patron, elected for life; a President, elected for three years; Vice-Presidents; General, and District or Local Secretaries; and a Treasurer, elected at each Anniversary Meeting; with a Committee of twelve, six of whom shall go out annually by rotation, but may be re-elected.—No person shall be elected on the Committee until he shall have been six months a Member of the Society.

III. Anniversary General Meetings shall be held for the purpose of electing the Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee for the past year, and of transacting all other necessary business, at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint; of which Meetings three weeks' notice shall be given to the Members.

IV. There shall also be a General Meeting fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving Reports, reading Papers, and transacting Business.—All members shall have the privilege of introducing one friend to the Anniversary and General Meetings.

V. The Committee is empowered to call Special Meetings of the Society, upon receiving a requisition signed by ten members.—Three weeks' notice of such Special Meeting, and its object shall be given to each Member.

VI. The affairs of the Society shall be directed by the Committee (of which the officers of the Society shall be *ex-officio* Members) which shall hold Monthly Meetings for receiving Reports from the Secretaries and Sub-committees, and for transacting other necessary business; five of the Committee shall be a quorum.—Members may attend the Monthly Committee Meetings, after the official business has been transacted.

VII. The Chairman, at Meetings of the Society, shall have a casting vote in addition to his vote as a member.

VIII. One (at least) of the Secretaries shall attend each Meeting, and shall keep a record of its proceedings.—All Manuscripts, and Communications, and the other property of the Society, shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

IX. Candidates for admission as Members shall be proposed by two Members at any of the General or Committee Meetings, and the election shall be determined by ballot at the next Committee or General Meeting; three-fourths of the members present balloting shall elect. The rules of the Society shall be subscribed by every person becoming a Member.

X. Ladies shall be eligible as Members of the Society without ballot, being proposed by two Members, and approved by the majority of the Meeting.

XI. Each Member shall pay ten shillings on admission to the Society, and ten shillings as an Annual Subscription, which shall become due on the first of January, in each year, and shall be paid in advance.

XII. Donors of Ten Guineas or upwards, shall be Members for life.

XIII. At General Meetings of the Society the Committee may recommend persons to be balloted for as Honorary or Corresponding Members.

XIV. When any office shall become vacant, or any new appointment shall be requisite, the Committee shall

have power to fill up the same; such appointments shall remain in force only till the next General Meeting, when they shall be either confirmed or annulled.

XV. The Treasurer shall receive all Subscriptions and Donations made to the Society, and shall pay all accounts passed by the Committee; he shall keep a book of receipts and payments, which he shall produce whenever the Committtee shall require it; the accounts shall be audited previously to the Anniversary Meeting by two Members of the Committee, chosen for that purpose; and an abstract of them shall be read at the Meeting.

XVI. No change shall be made in the Laws of the Society, except at a General or Special Meeting, at which twelve members at least shall be present.—Of the proposed change a month's notice shall be given to the Secretaries, who shall communicate the same to each Member three weeks before the Meeting.

XVII. Papers read at Meetings of the Society, and considered by the Committee of sufficient interest for publication, shall be forwarded (with the author's consent) to such Periodical as shall be determined by the Committee to be the best for the purpose, with a request that a number of such papers may be printed separately, for distribution to the Members of the Society, either gratuitously or for such payment as may be agreed on.

XVIII. No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society.

XIX. That any person contributing Books or Specimens to the Museum shall be at liberty to resume possession of them in the event of the property of the Society ever being sold, or transferred to any other county. Also persons shall have liberty to deposit Books or Specimens for a specific time only.

N.B. One of the objects of the Society shall be to collect, by donation or purchase, a Library and Museum, more particularly illustrating the History (Natural, Civil, and Ecclesiastical) of the County of Somerset.

*** *It is requested that Contributions to the Museum or Library, be sent to the Curator, at the Society's Rooms, Taunton.*

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